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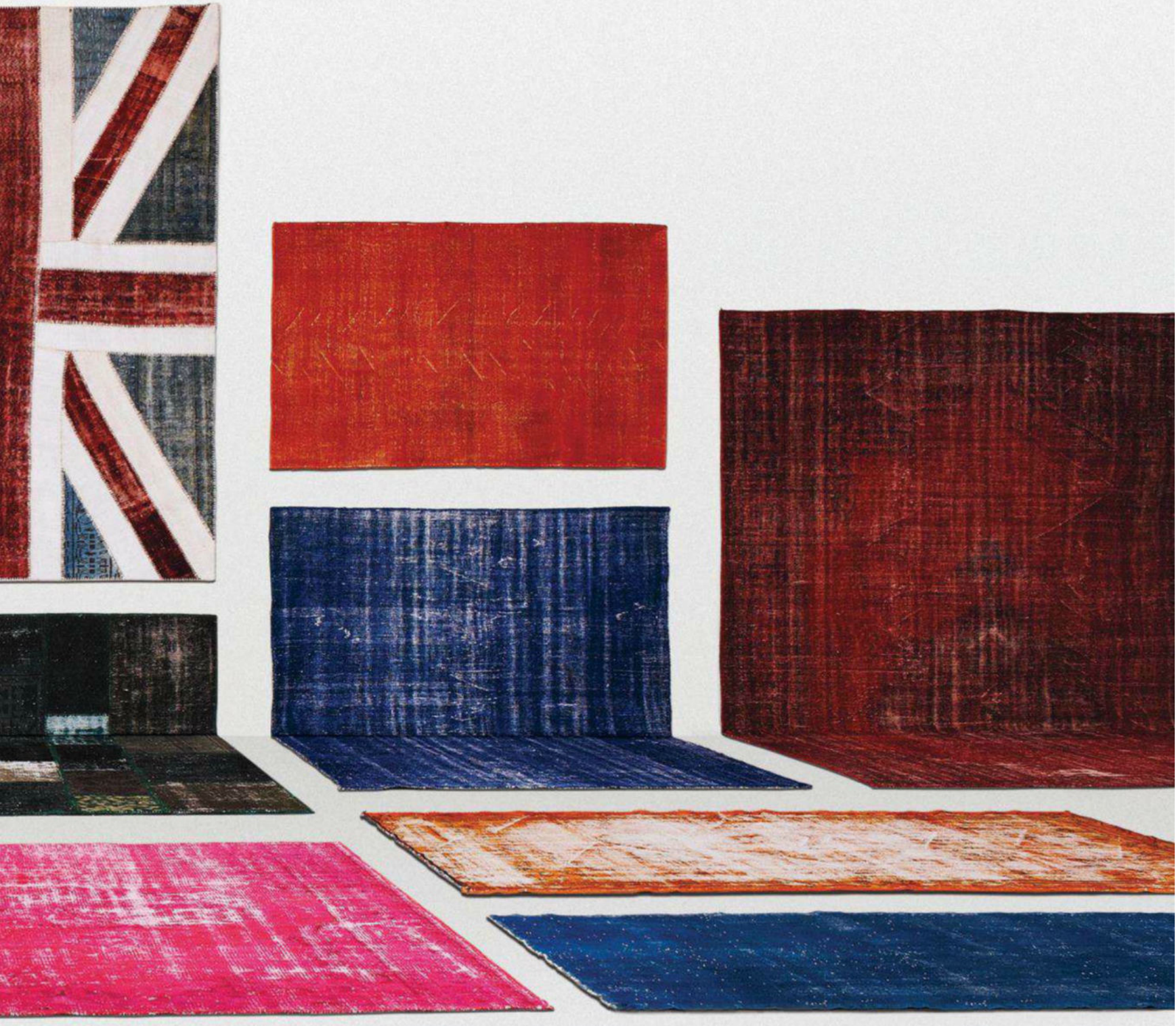

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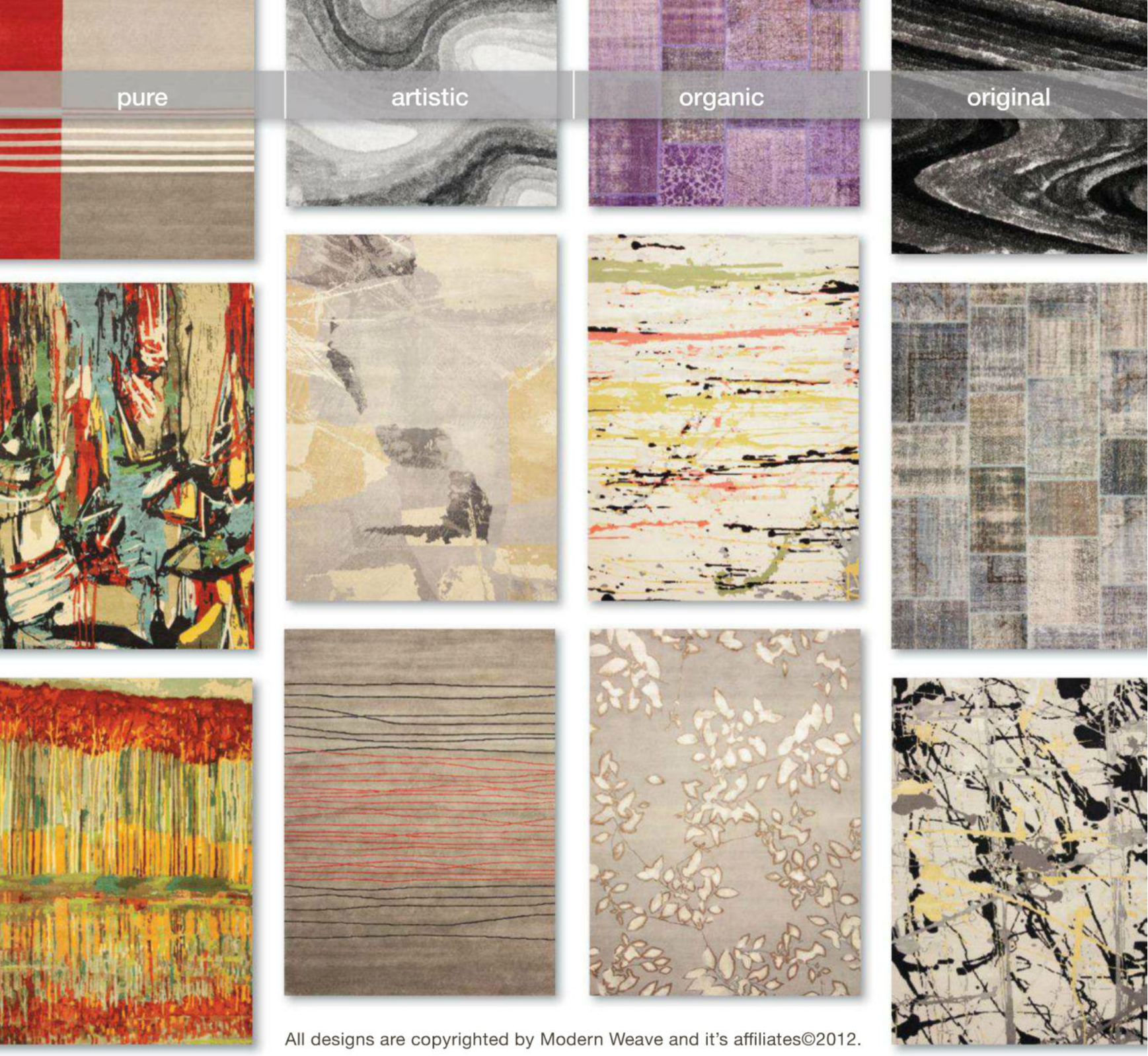

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style at home

JULY 2012

HOMES

88 BIRD'S EYE VIEW
A pale aesthetic and a touch of nostalgia create sublime, soothing appeal in this modern-life house that's truly a home

94 LET THERE BE LIGHT
Decorated with a light hand and a soft palette, this East Coast family cottage enlightens the senses and cures the soul

102 SCANDI-CANADIAN ON A SHOESTRING
Pairing her Canadian roots with her flair for Scandinavian design, style and food editor Tara Ballantyne creates a budget-friendly look that's all her own

DECORATING

44 STEVEN & CHRIS
TV hosts Steven and Chris answer their most-asked design dilemmas

46 DOLLARS & SENSE
Handyman and TV star Scott McGillivray tells you where to save and where to spend

48 CHRISTINE'S NOTEBOOK
A buying guide to flush-mount light fixtures

50 HIGH OR LOW
This stunning light and airy space will have you sitting pretty whether you're on a royal-throne or a folding-chair budget

59 SO FRESH AND SO CLEAN
Four laundry rooms so fun they may even have you wanting to do laundry

70 HELLO, SAILOR!
Nautical style gets a fun Canadian refresh this year with the addition of rustic-chic fisherman-inspired products

74 FLORAL WHITES
Freed from the garden, these beautiful blooms bring a dose of pure, heaven-scented bliss to any room

78 KITCHEN WHITES
It's time to look at plain old dishware in a whole new light because white isn't boring if it's styled right

78

ON THE COVER
A pretty, elegant sitting room **50**

PHOTOGRAPHY
Michel Dube

40

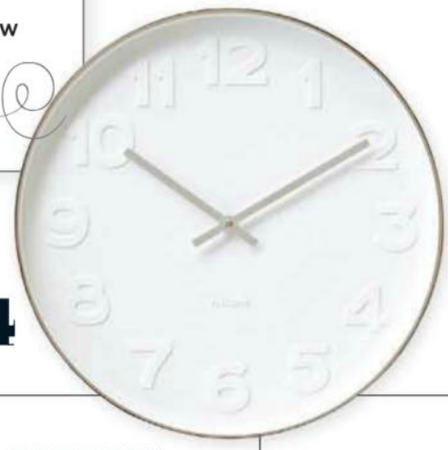
DECORATING LESSONS

74
FLORAL WHITES

78
KITCHEN WHITES

88
BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Insider tips and tricks on how to decorate with our favourite shade – white!



134

STYLE NEWS

DECOR
Chic white decor items, sleek white appliances and our favourite white paint picks **33**

FOOD & DRINKS

DESSERT OF THE MONTH
A fruity feast for the senses featuring a pucker-up-and-kiss-me combination of tart and sweet **40**

SUNDAY BEST
Sweet and savoury breakfast ideas for lazy summer mornings **110**

TASTINGS
Wine expert Angela Aiello salutes the sun with her favourite summer sippers **120**

REGULARS

From our Editor **16**
Letters from Home **22**
Date with Style **26**
Styleathome.com **29**
Workbook **122**
Style Destination **132**
Style Statement **134**

WIN THIS

E-NEWSLETTER PRIZE
A $200 gift card from the Home Depot Canada **29**

EAT • SHOP • DECORATE
The trip of a lifetime to Rome, Paris and London with *Style at Home* **83**

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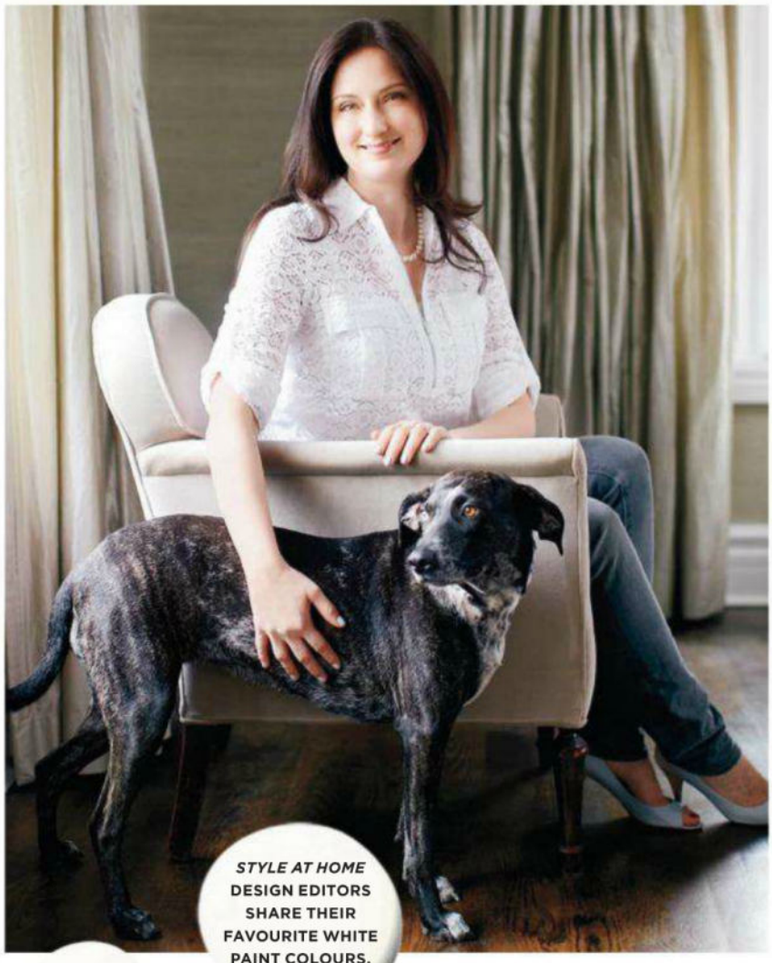

STYLE AT HOME DESIGN EDITORS SHARE THEIR FAVOURITE WHITE PAINT COLOURS.

"You can't go wrong with Benjamin Moore's Cloud White. It's very complementary and it's an industry standard for a reason." **Jessica Waks, design editor**

CLOUD WHITE CC-40, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

"It's a crisp, clean white that's neither too creamy nor too harsh." **Ann Marie Favot, senior style editor**

OXFORD WHITE CC-30, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

"A clean, pure white works well in both modern and contemporary spaces for a fresh, cool feel." **Tara Ballantyne, style and food editor**

ALL WHITE 2005, Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.

BUDGET FIND!

I'm always on the hunt for great pieces at a reasonable cost. I've been a long-time fan of matelassé, and this coverlet and sham set from IKEA is a new favourite for my master bedroom.

Alina **BEDSPREAD & TOSS CUSHION COVERS,** from $70 per set, IKEA, ikea.ca.

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for the love of WHITE

What is it about white that we love so much? And why do most of us feel that a fresh white space is soothing and relaxing in a way that colour is not? I adore white – in all shades – whether it's the purest paper white or a moody candlelit ivory. But what fascinates me most about the hue is how discerning decor lovers always seem to have a favourite. There are some designers who commit to a paint colour and swear by it as the perfect white for any type of application. And then there are others who choose a white depending on the location (north- or south-facing) or mood (warm or cool) of the room.

I was in university when my interest in decorating became serious. I painted my apartment a sunny yellow (I also chose a darker yellow to colour-block one wall) and painted the trim white. When I think back to the white I used, it was a generic trim paint that was sold at every hardware store. It came in a predictable semigloss finish and had absolutely no personality. At the time, I had no idea that there was more than one shade of white to choose from.

Fast-forward a couple of decades and I'm still on the hunt for the perfect white for any space. I'm always asking designers what shades they prefer, and I have regular chats with *Style at Home*'s design editors, discussing the merits of each of our favourites of the moment (see our top eight picks on page 38).

I have great respect for the homeowners and designers in this issue who have made a commitment to their white paint choices. Each one has taken a different approach to the hue, whether their space is modern, vintage or Scandinavian-inspired. But even after putting this issue to bed, I'm still overwhelmed with all the possibilities and can't figure out the perfect white for my home.

Do you have a favourite white? Send me a tweet (@erinmclaughlin1) and let me know what it is!

Erin

Erin McLaughlin erin@styleathome.com

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Left:
New Yorker
6 Drawer Chest

Right:
Hudson Valley
2 Door/4 Drawer
Wardrobe

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Georgetown Bedroom
Queen Bed shown with 3 Drawer
Night Table and 6 Drawer Hi-boy

Contempo Bedroom
Queen Bed with spacious
under-bed storage drawers
shown with 3 Drawer Night
Table and 6 Drawer Hi-boy

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PATIENTLY **WAITING**

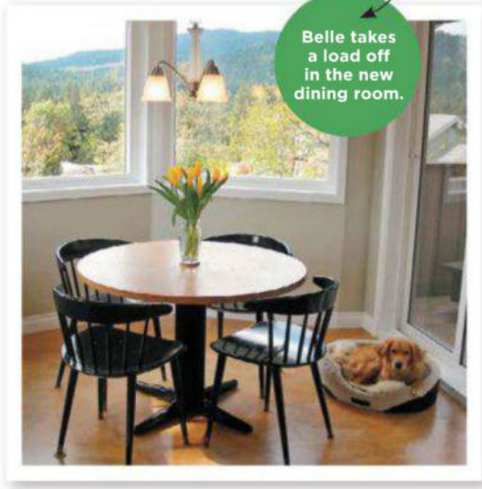
Armed with the May 2012 issue of *Style at Home*, a notebook and a pen, I set out as a passenger on a road trip from Toronto to Quebec City. Carefully combing the pages, I culled together all of the ideas that I could potentially incorporate into my outdoor living space, located off my kitchen. I'm looking forward to when our weather warms up so I can implement some of these creative and innovative ideas. You never fail to please and surprise me, and I think I speak for all of your readers when I say that turning that last page means we can hardly wait for the next issue.

ANNE MARIE BEATTIE, OSHAWA, ON

SAVED BY THE **BELLE**

My hubby knows not to disturb me when I sit on the couch with wine or coffee (depending on the time of day) and devour every page of your fabulous magazine! This morning (with coffee), I couldn't get past the pictures of Tallulah and Leo on page 18 of the June 2012 issue without writing you. On our recent dining room makeover, we splurged on new cork flooring, windows, sliding doors and baseboards but saved on a chandelier that was on clearance, DIY wallpaper stripping and window frames. But the best save of all? Our little rescue from Arkansas, Belle! Thank you, Erin and *Style at Home*, for a fantastic treat in my mailbox every month. Hugs from a fellow dog lover!

VERONICA MCINTYRE, VICTORIA, BC



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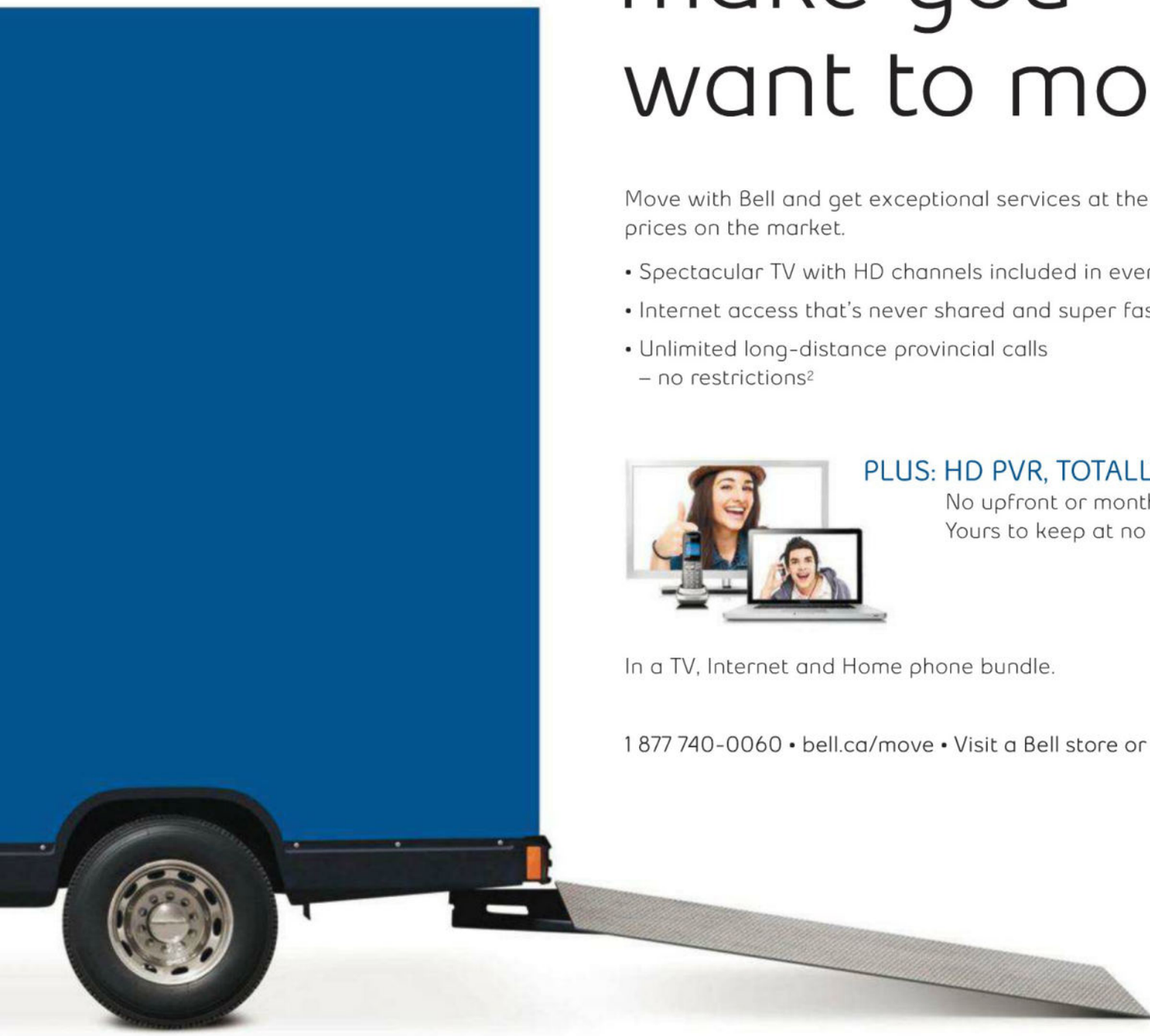

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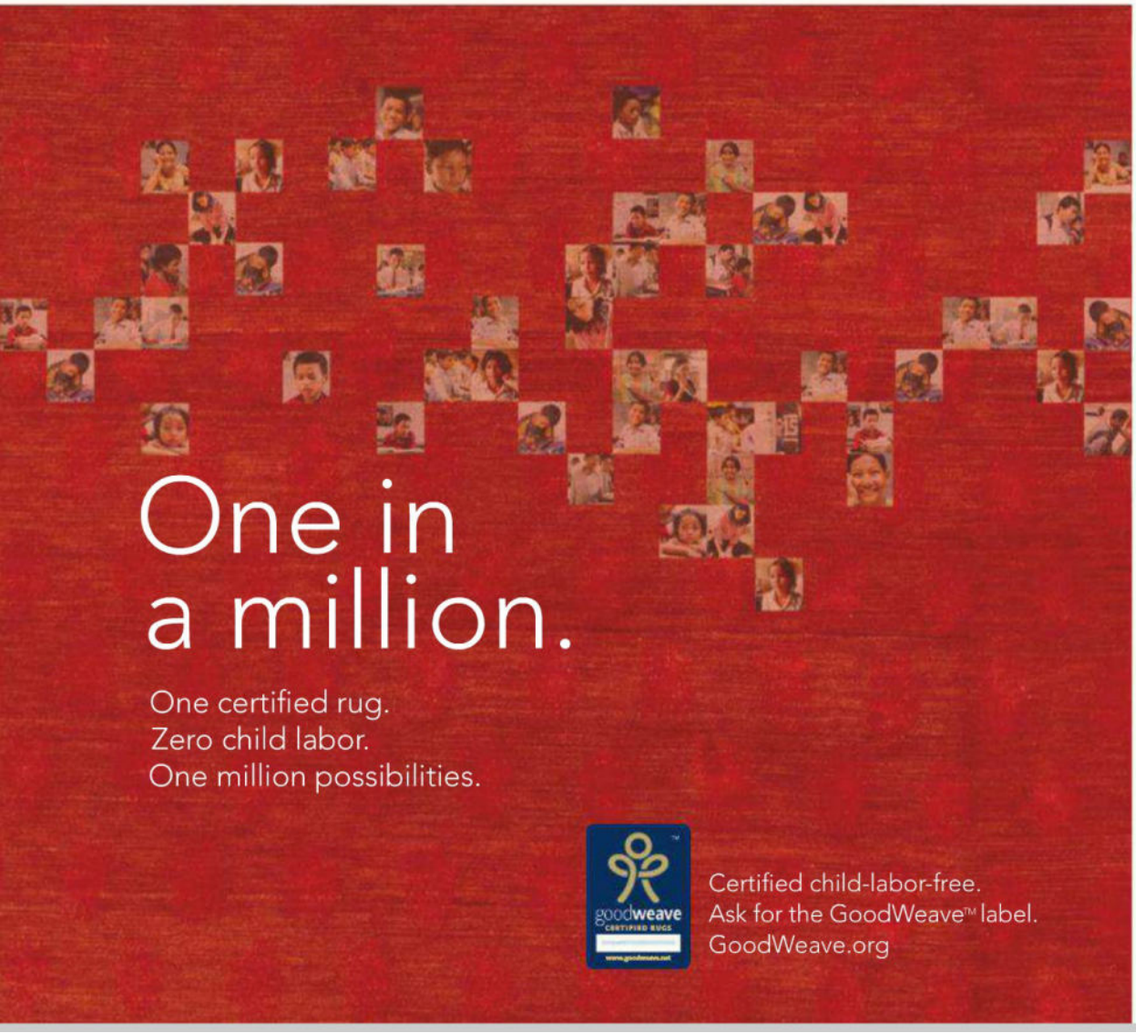
FOOD FOR **THOUGHT**

I swoon every time I see a new issue of *Style at Home* in my mailbox. I usually do a quick flip-through and then I go through a second time, poring over every picture and reading all of the information on the design of each room – I've been known to keep some issues for years! In the June 2012 issue (page 158), the recipes had me wanting to make them right away – so fresh, quick and gloriously appetizing. Thanks for the ideas!

EVELYN, VIA EMAIL

you could win!

The writer of this issue's favourite letter will receive a **Schick Hydro Silk razor spa package!** The Schick Hydro Silk razor goes beyond an incredibly close shave to actually care for your skin.



S@H READERS TWEET

A new issue of *Style at Home* to inspire my renos! Best part? June's theme is design on a budget, perfect!
@hfraught

Style at Home's June High or Low uses pretty rice bags in the kitchen for decor, just like I do as my DIY kitchen art!
@InteriorGroupie

I love opening my mailbox at home to find a new *Style at Home* magazine! Glam reading!
@RTDesignergirl

New issue of *Style at Home* arrived, my sweetie made me tea and I'm all tucked into bed before 9 p.m. So excited!
@jendyment

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we love to hear from you!

Email us at letters@styleathome.com or write to us at *Style at Home*, Letters from Home, 25 Sheppard Ave. W., Suite 100, Toronto, Ont. M2N 6S7.

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DATE WITH *style*

Don't miss *Style at Home* editors and designers on television and at these events.

Watch editor-in-chief **Erin McLaughlin** on CBC's *Steven and Chris*. For air dates and times, check your local listings or go to cbc.ca/stevenandchris.

Editor-in-chief **Erin McLaughlin** on set with Steven Sabados and Chris Hyndman.

WE'RE ON TV!

Catch style and food editor **Tara Ballantyne** and design editor **Jessica Waks** on Citytv's *CityLine*. Check your local listings for showtimes or go to citytv.com/cityline.

WISH YOU **WERE HERE!**

The Brimfield Antique and Collectibles Show began in the 1950s and is now the largest outdoor antiques show in the US.

Editor-in-chief **Erin McLaughlin,** executive editor **Suzanne Moutis** and our design editors embarked on a road trip to the Brimfield Antique and Collectibles Show in Massachusetts for the Brimfield Tweet-up on May 10. *Style at Home* was proud to be the official media partner of the event and a great time was had by all!

PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA (JESSICA & TARA); CLOTHING, OVER THE RAINBOW, RAINBOWJEANS.COM (ERIN)

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Ellen is wearing Tone Rehab 2-in-1 Foundation in Ivory.

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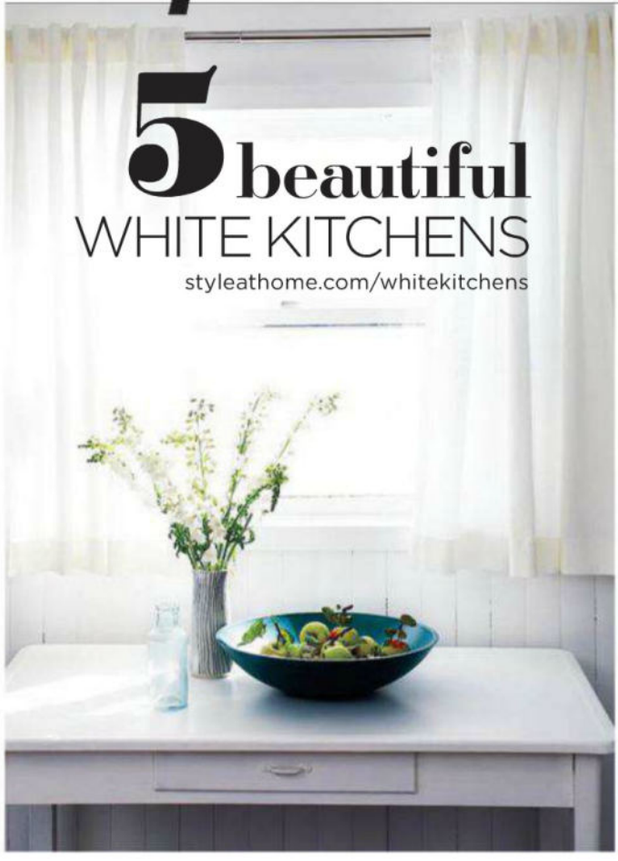
A **EUROPEAN VACATION** with *Style at Home* editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin. For more details, see page 83 or visit **styleathome.com/eatshopdecorate.**

ultimate SUMMER ENTERTAINING GUIDE

styleathome.com/summer

online this month

styleathome.com



5 beautiful WHITE KITCHENS

styleathome.com/whitekitchens

WIN THIS!

This month, you could win a **$200 gift card from the Home Depot Canada.** Use this gift card to create the outdoor space of your dreams! Treat yourself to a garden of beautiful plants, decorative patio furniture or a new barbecue with all the latest accessories.

TO ENTER, VISIT STYLEATHOME.COM/NEWSLETTER.

Sign up for any of the *Style at Home* e-newsletters and you'll automatically be entered into our monthly e-newsletter subscriber contest for your chance to win great prizes!

PHOTOGRAPHY, VIRGINIA MACDONALD (TOP); MICHAEL GRAYDON (BOTTOM)

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PRODUCER JESSICA WAKS

stylenews

Decor, trends, style ideas and more – we bring you the latest and greatest inspirations.

we love

Ultra White 7006-24 **WALL PAINT,** Lowe's, lowes.ca; Koppang **CHEST,** Kolja **MIRROR,** IKEA, ikea.ca; lace **FABRIC,** Fabricland, fabricland.ca; **SPRAY PAINT,** glass **KNOBS,** The Home Depot, homedepot.ca; **TABLE LAMP,** HomeSense, homesense.ca.

pretty *in lace*

For this issue's project of the month, managing editor and resident crafter Catherine Therrien takes a basic mirror and lends it a soft, romantic touch by simply laying a piece of lace fabric over the surface and giving it a light coat of white spray paint.

Check out Cat's Crafts for more fun and easy DIY projects. Visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/CATS-CRAFTS.**

PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA; STYLING, CATHERINE THERRIEN

BREAKING THE MOULD

HAUSER'S OPERA CHAIR HITS A HIGH NOTE WITH ITS VIRTUALLY INDESTRUCTIBLE PLASTIC CONSTRUCTION AND SWEEPING SKIRT, WHILE IKEA'S VÅGÖ HAS A CUT-OUT IN THE SEAT TO ALLOW SUMMER RAIN TO DRAIN.

STEAL

IKEA PS Vågö **CHAIR** in White, $30, IKEA, ikea.ca.

SPLURGE

Opera **CHAIR** in White, $499, Hauser, hauserstores.com.

tall tale

At 45 inches tall, this curvy table lamp plays with scale, adding a dose of high-gloss drama to any space.

Kelso **TABLE LAMP,** $159, Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com.

we love

PETAL TO THE METAL

Hand-painted wrought iron blooms are clustered together in a modern sphere, resulting in an ethereal and oh-so-pretty pendant.

Cypress Collection **CHANDELIER,** $1,590, Barrymore Furniture, barrymorefurniture.com.

TRUE PATRIOT LOVE

POLAR EXPRESS

JUST IN TIME FOR CANADA DAY, THIS LIMITED EDITION CAST CEMENT SIDE TABLE, DESIGNED BY DEBORAH MOSS OF TORONTO STUDIO MOSS & LAM, IS AN HOMAGE TO THE STRIKING BEAUTY OF THE POLAR BEAR.

Moss & Lam Walking Bear **SIDE TABLE,** $3,080, Avenue Road, avenue-road.com.

BATHING BEAUTY

The sculptural Couture soaking bathtub from Montreal's Wetstyle traces its design roots to the original barrel tub but looks more modern than ever thanks to its composition of Wetmar – a groundbreaking composite material exclusive to the brand that is durable and slip resistant and comes in a matte or high-gloss finish.

Couture Freestanding **BATHTUB,** from $6,500, Wetstyle, wetstyle.ca.

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classical act

Lend your interiors a touch of European flair with this resin table lamp that looks like it came straight from the Louvre.

Made Goods Troy **TABLE LAMP,** $640, South Hill Home, southhillhome.com.

Sierra **PITCHER,** $68, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

we love

PATTERNED POUR

EMBOSSED WITH A MÉLANGE OF GRAPHIC GEOMETRICS, THIS TERRACOTTA PITCHER DOUBLES AS SCULPTURE FOR YOUR TABLE.

WHITE KNIGHTS

As more and more people adapt to the idea that white is right when it comes to kitchen cabinetry, appliances are following suit in new incarnations that look far superior to their early 1980s counterparts. Plastic handles have been traded in for stainless steel and glass accents, making for a high-end contemporary look that feels bright and fresh.

Connoisseurian Dual Fuel **RANGE** in White, 36", $7,599, Capital Cooking, capital-cooking.com.

Double Dish Drawer **DISHWASHER** in White, $1,299, Fisher & Paykel, fisherpaykel.com.

Nutid S23 **REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER** in White, $1,999, IKEA, ikea.ca.

Electric Convection Self-Clean Single **WALL OVEN** in White, 30", $1,999, GE Profile, geprofile.ca.

Gallery Built-in **DISHWASHER** in White, 24", $699, Frigidaire, frigidaire.ca.

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whitewashed

There's nothing quite like a clean coat of white paint to make over a room. Whether it's warm or cool, crisp or soft, these favourites are always a breath of fresh air.

1
MOTHER OF PEARL
513-1, PPG PITTSBURGH PAINTS, PPGPITTSBURGHPAINTS.COM.

2
DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER
PS246-14D, PARA PAINTS, PARA.COM.

3
BEAUTI-TONE STYLE AT HOME COUNTRY COLOUR COLLECTION TENNIS WHITES
FD018, HOME HARDWARE, HOMEHARDWARE.CA.

4
POINTING
2003, FARROW & BALL, FARROW-BALL.COM.

5
BEAUTI-TONE STYLE AT HOME COLOUR COLLECTION PAPERWHITE
SD036, HOME HARDWARE, HOMEHARDWARE.CA.

6
DECORATORS WHITE
CC-20, BENJAMIN MOORE, BENJAMINMOORE.CA.

7
VALSPAR PARAMOUNT WHITE
7006-22, LOWE'S, LOWES.CA.

8
CHANTILLY LACE
OC-65, BENJAMIN MOORE, BENJAMINMOORE.CA.

For how to give your home a facelift with white paint, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/WHITEPAINT.**

PRODUCER, ANN MARIE FAVOT; PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA

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PRODUCER
TARA BALLANTYNE

TEXT
SUZANNE MOUTIS

PHOTOGRAPHY
JOE KIM

raspberry & meyer lemon CREAM TART

A fruity feast for the senses featuring a pucker-up-and-kiss-me combination of tart and sweet.

If your idea of the perfect summer dessert is an old-fashioned freshly baked fruit pie cooling on the windowsill, its fragrant aroma drifting on the warm breeze, then read on: This free-form modern version, with its just-picked berries and smooth lemony cream, could be your new favourite. Simple to make and amenable to endless variations, it's a fitting finale for any occasion and any age group. It might not be just like the one Mom used to bake, but then again, it just might be better.

Delicious Meyer lemons are a hybrid brought to America from China by agricultural explorer Frank Meyer in 1908. Named in his honour, Meyer lemons are sweeter, rounder and slightly more orange than typical lemons.

RECIPE DEVELOPMENT & FOOD STYLING, TARA BALLANTYNE; PHOTOGRAPHY, JOE KIM/TC MEDIA

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yum
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RASPBERRY & MEYER LEMON CREAM TART

INGREDIENTS
MAKES 4 SMALL TARTS

FOR CRUST

- 1 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 tbsp granulated sugar
- ½ cup unsalted butter, chilled and cut into cubes
- 4 tbsp ice water

FOR MEYER LEMON CREAM

- 1 cup water
- ¾ cup granulated sugar
- 2 heaping tbsp corn flour
- ½ cup fresh lemon juice (from about 2 Meyer lemons)
- 1 tbsp lemon zest
- 2 tbsp unsalted butter, cut into ½" cubes
- 4 egg yolks, beaten to blend
- ½ cup whipping cream
- 1 lb fresh raspberries

DIY DECOR
Prepare extra Meyer lemon cream to give to friends as a topping for fresh fruit. Add a homemade label and voila, instant gift!

1. TO MAKE THE CRUST, blend the flour, salt and sugar in a food processor until combined. Add the butter and process until the mixture is crumbly. With the processor running, slowly add the ice water, 1 tbsp at a time, until the dough just holds together, making sure not to overprocess. Remove the dough from the processor and roll into four balls; cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 1 hour.

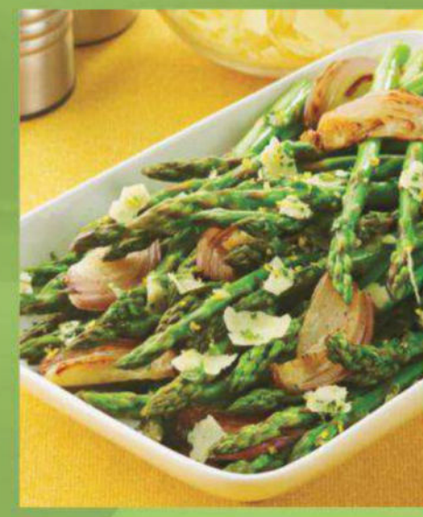
2. FOR THE MEYER LEMON CREAM, add the water, sugar, flour, lemon juice, zest and butter to a heavy saucepan. Heat to a simmer, stirring constantly, until the butter melts. Remove the pan from the heat and gradually whisk in the beaten egg yolks.

3. RETURN THE SAUCEPAN TO A GENTLE HEAT and cook the mixture, whisking constantly, until thickened (don't let the mixture boil). Strain into a bowl and cover with plastic wrap; place the lemon cream in the fridge until completely chilled.

4. PREHEAT THE OVEN to 450°F. Beat the whipping cream with an electric mixer; gently fold into the lemon mixture.

5. TO ASSEMBLE, place the chilled dough on a lightly floured surface and roll the pastry into about four 4" rounds. Transfer the rounds to a baking sheet lined with parchment paper or a baking mat.

6. SPREAD 2 TBSP OF THE LEMON CREAM evenly over each pastry round, leaving a 1½" border around the edge. Arrange the berries neatly over the top and fold the sides of the pastry up to cover the berries, pleating where necessary. Brush the pastry with melted butter and bake for about 15 minutes, or until the pastry is golden brown. Remove from the oven and serve the tart warm or at room temperature.



OVEN-ROASTED ASPARAGUS WITH PARMESAN GREMOLATA

The **Becel® Buttery Taste Margarine** in this asparagus dish has 80% less saturated fat than butter and a delicious buttery taste you'll love. So why not treat yourself to a little something tasty on the side? It can be our little secret.

10 mL (2 tsp) finely chopped fresh parsley

10 mL (2 tsp) grated parmesan cheese

1 mL (1/4 tsp) grated lemon rind

350 g (3/4 lb) asparagus, trimmed

80 mL (1/3 cup) thinly sliced onion or 2 large shallots, cut into thin wedges

15 mL (1 tbsp) **Becel® Buttery Taste Margarine**

Preheat oven to 425°. Combine parsley, cheese and lemon peel in small bowl; set aside. Toss asparagus, shallots and **Becel® Buttery Taste Margarine** in 13 x 9-inch roasting pan. Roast 15 minutes or until tender. Arrange asparagus mixture on serving platter, then top with cheese mixture. Season, if desired, with freshly ground black pepper.

2 servings
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 15 minutes

For complete nutrition information, visit becel.ca

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for more delicious recipes.

PEOPLE ALWAYS *ask us*

This issue, the stars of the TV show *Steven and Chris* tell you how to make a great room family-friendly.

concept

A great room – if you're lucky enough to have one – should be able to accommodate the needs of an active family without sacrificing style.

Steven Sabados and **Chris Hyndman** are the hosts of the lifestyle show *Steven and Chris*. Watch them weekdays at 2 p.m. on CBC. Catch editor-in-chief **Erin McLaughlin** monthly on the show as a guest expert. If you have a design dilemma, email Steven and Chris at asksteveandchris@cbc.ca.

Select a coffee table that matches the scale of your sofa. This trunk-style one from Restoration Hardware is big enough for family game nights, plus it offers plenty of storage inside.

Heirloom Silver **COFFEE TRUNK,** $1,895 US, Restoration Hardware, restorationhardware.com.

Keep your colour palette soft and subtle. A great room should speak for itself. Paint built-ins or bookcases (great for storing clutter!) in the same warm white as your ceiling and trim.

White Dove OC-17 **PAINT,** Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

Add warm tones of colour through toss cushions. Look for ones with button or zipper closures so that you can easily remove the covers for cleaning.

Hand-loomed silk **TOSS CUSHION COVERS,** $34 each, West Elm, westelm.com.

A rug with a complex pattern camouflages a multitude of spills!

Ikat Links **RUG,** 5′ x 8′, $419, West Elm, westelm.com.

Extra seating always comes in handy. Tuck benches under a sofa table – they can easily be moved around during get-togethers.

Tufted **BENCH,** from $495 US, Restoration Hardware, restorationhardware.com.

Opt for an oversized sofa or sectional. This is going to be the most used piece in your home, so choose a neutral fabric that is easy to clean and will stand up to a busy family.

Emmett **SECTIONAL,** $5,185, Elte, elte.com.

RENDERING: OLIVIA HNATYSHIN

For more essentials for a stylish and durable family-friendly home, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/FAMILYFRIENDLY.**

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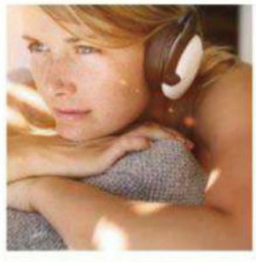

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moving the STAIRS

If you think that moving your staircase is like moving a mountain, think again. While I won't deny that it's a big job, it can make all the difference to the flow of your home. So, before you completely wave off the idea, read some of the benefits below. The results can be well worth the effort and the investment. **TEXT** SCOTT MCGILLIVRAY

The right staircase in the right place can really make a home work to its full potential.

on the move

You wouldn't think twice about removing walls to open up a room, so it shouldn't come as a surprise that moving your stairs can foster the same result. If you're gutting your interior, this is the ideal time to consider a change of floor plan. If you aren't planning a major remodel, be prepared for a big job that may involve reviewing how your home is supported. Builders and contractors will often quote on the easiest and most cost-effective solution but if you think outside the box, assessing the flow of your home and how the stairs relate can be a good lesson.

FROM WOOD TO GLASS, THERE ARE MANY OPTIONS WHEN IT COMES TO THE DESIGN OF YOUR STAIRS.

open it up

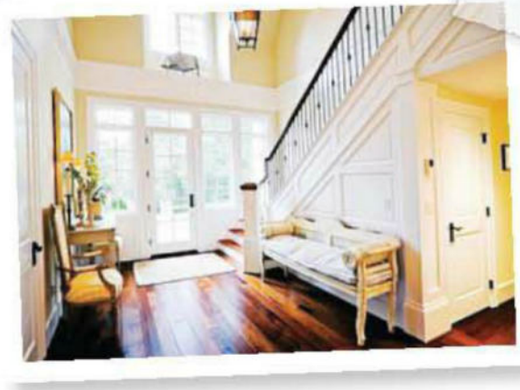
If you want to open up your interior but don't want to absorb the cost of moving your whole staircase, taking down the walls of an existing stairwell can have a huge impact. There is also the option to replace traditional stairs with a spiral or floating style to add architectural interest to your home. Opening up a stairwell can bring in natural light and create the illusion of more space. It's an idea especially worth thinking about for smaller houses.

variety of variables

Moving a staircase is tricky to cost out because there are a lot of variables. Are you replacing the stairs with traditional wooden ones or are you looking at something more modern like concrete, metal or glass? Is this a custom project that requires an architect and a team of designers or is this something that you can plan on your own with your builder? What walls need to come down and what additional support needs to be added to your home's existing structure? This is a really big decision that isn't impossible to make; it just needs to be carefully thought out before you actually make the move.

follow the rules

Before you decide on a design that's big on looks, make sure it's not light on code. There are formulas and code builders that architects must use to determine the number of risers that a staircase needs to be functional. The average stair height, or riser, is 7¼" but can be anywhere between 5" and 7⅞". To figure out how many steps are needed, take the distance between the two floors that the stairs will be joining and divide it by the height of the riser. For safety reasons, it's also important to keep in mind that railings must be at a height of 35" and spindles, or balusters, must not be more than 4" apart.



Scott McGillivray is the host of HGTV's *Income Property*. Catch back-to-back episodes Thursdays at 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on HGTV.

PHOTOGRAPHY, TIM LEYES, COURTESY OF HGTV CANADA (PORTRAIT); ISTOCKPHOTO (STAIRCASES)

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Christine's guide to

PRODUCER CHRISTINE HANLON

FLUSH-MOUNT LIGHT FIXTURES

Flush-mount light fixtures have come a long way since the dreaded and over-specified builder-grade ones that look like, well, let's face it, a boob. Today's market offers a remarkable range of versatile and stylish options that'll work for many different spaces.

Seaspray semi-flush **LIGHT FIXTURE,** $2,730 US, The Urban Electric Co., urbanelectricco.com.

tip

While frosted light bulbs reduce glare, clear bulbs produce a nice sparkly light (although they're typically brighter). They work especially well for refracting light through glass or crystal fixtures to create pretty reflections – perfect for the powder room. Vintage- and industrial-style ones are appealing when exposed.

things to consider

- **How much room do you have for the fixture to drop?** The drop is especially important if your fixture is located where a door has to open underneath. Don't forget, sometimes fixtures have small finials or extra embellishments that make their finished size bigger than you think.
- **How does the fixture look lit and unlit?** Sometimes they can look quite different, so be sure to purchase one that you like both ways.
- **Is the fixture in good condition?** Confirm that all the parts mentioned on the box are actually inside it. Look for broken glass, scratches or any other possible manufacturer defects.
- **What type of bulb should you use?** What wattage is required? Will the fixture be installed on a dimmer? Is the bulb visible? What size and shape of bulb will best suit the fixture? Do you want a clear or frosted one?

new styles

There's a huge range of styles and finishes available today, from sleek contemporary looks to traditional favourites to antique reproductions.

- **Handmade, industrial-style or reproductions,** including weathered metal, cage enclosures and faceted mirrors.
- **Fixtures that imitate jewellery** with delicate beads, iridescent glass and crystal.
- **French influences,** including gilded finishes, ornate detailing and crystal beads.
- **Warm burnished and black metal finishes**
- **Colour,** especially in bright, modern applications.

where to use them

Flush-mount light fixtures are a great alternative to pot lighting, adding softness and character to your rooms. They're perfect for:

- **The entryway/front foyer**
- **The hallway** (they look best when used in multiples).
- **The kitchen,** over a family dining table or eating nook.
- **Areas with a height (or depth) restriction,** such as the laundry room, mud room and powder room.
- **Spaces where doors or cabinetry** require clearance to open at the top or in small spaces where chandeliers or pendant lights just won't work.

FOR MORE TIPS AND FLUSH-MOUNT LIGHT FIXTURES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

PHOTOGRAPHY XXXXXXXXX

9 stylish options

When buying, look for fixtures that reflect the essence of your space. Flush mounts can be more than just a practical choice, turning what may otherwise be a humdrum pass-through into a character-filled enclave.

Nirvana flush **LIGHT FIXTURE** in Bombay Brass, $840, Universal Lamp, greatlighting.com.

Faceted Mirror semi-flush **LIGHT FIXTURE,** $157, West Elm, westelm.com.

IKEA 365+ Utkik flush **LIGHT FIXTURE,** $40, IKEA, ikea.ca.

Southport Collection hand-painted wrought iron floral semi-flush **LIGHT FIXTURE,** $398 US, Crystorama, crystorama.com.

Medium Paris Flea Market flush **LIGHT FIXTURE,** $865, Elte, elte.com.

Color Pop **SCONCE** in Aqua, $159 US, Shades of Light, shadesoflight.com.

Plantation flush **LIGHT FIXTURE** in Burnished Brass, $295, Universal Lamp, greatlighting.com.

Chisholm Passage flush **LIGHT FIXTURE,** $1,205 US, The Urban Electric Co., urbanelectricco.com.

Frank flush **LIGHT FIXTURE** in Natural Brass, $693 US, Circa Lighting, circalighting.com.

For more on lighting, see Christine's guide to chandeliers at **STYLEATHOME.COM/STUNNINGCHANDELIERS.**

high OR low... can you tell the difference?

MUG, SPOON, POTTERY (ON BLUE TABLE), PLEASANT POTTERY, 416-489-1324; FRENCH DOORS, HARDWARE, THE DOOR STORE, THEDOORSTORE.CA; BLUE LACQUERED TABLE, 1212 DECOR, 1212DECOR.COM; BOX, BUD VASES (ON MANTEL), RIBBEHEGE & AZEVEDO, RIBBEHEGEANDAZEVEDO.COM; VASE (ON MANTEL), SCULPTURE, HOMESENSE, HOMESENSE.CA; DRAPERY ROD, CROWN MOULDING, LOWE'S, LOWES.CA

Call it a salon, drawing room or plain old sitting room, this stunning light and airy space will have you sitting pretty, whether you're on a royal-throne or a folding-chair budget.

PRODUCER ANDREA MCCRINDLE | **TEXT** SARA CATION | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MICHEL DUBE

$738 Avant Guard viscose/linen Flourish **DRAPERY FABRIC** in 12, $123 per yard, MacFab Fabrics, macfabfabrics.com.

$740 Robert Abbey metal Crane **FLOOR LAMP** in Polished Nickel, Universal Lamp, greatlighting.com.

$900 per 8-yard roll Phillip Jeffries Voyage Collection Rings **WALLPAPER** in White on Elephant, through designers, Crown Wallpaper & Fabrics, crownwallpaper.com.

$3,260 Christopher Guy solid mahogany oval **COCKTAIL TABLE** with drawer in Ivoire Lacquer, Barrymore Furniture, barrymorefurniture.com.

$5,599 Nepal Art wool 8A 19875C1008 **RUG,** 8′ x 10′, Imperial Carpet & Home, carpetandhome.com.

$695 Brass-and-capiz **PENDANT LIGHT,** Decorum Decorative Finds, decorum.1stdibs.com.

$2,995 Venetian **MIRROR,** 90″ x 40″, Artifacts, artifactslifestyle.com.

$300 Linen embroidery **TOSS CUSHION,** Ribbehege & Azevedo, ribbehegeandazevedo.com.

$550 Hand-printed velvet Dandy **TOSS CUSHION** in Aqua, Constantine Living, constantineliving.com.

$8,390 Christopher Guy satin **SETTEE** in 18th Century Silver, Barrymore Furniture, barrymorefurniture.com.

$258 Linen/cotton Omoko **DRAPERY FABRIC** in Smoke, $43 per yard, Designer Fabrics, designerfabrics.ca.

$99 Cast iron-and-aluminum Husvik **FLOOR LAMP,** IKEA, ikea.ca.

$87 per roll York Wallcoverings Antonina Vella Collection Angelina **WALLPAPER** in GM1213, through designers, Crown Wallpaper & Fabrics, crownwallpaper.com.

$395 Hardwood **COCKTAIL TABLE** in White Gloss, Jamie Alexander Furniture & Design, jamiealexander.com.

$847 Polypropylene Naxos 1237 **RUG** in 100, 8′ x 11′, Imperial Carpet & Home, carpetandhome.com.

$495 Bukur **PENDANT LIGHT,** Boo Boo & Lefty, boobooandlefty.com.

$1,370 Bevelled Venetian **MIRROR,** 80″ x 45″, Union Lighting & Furnishings, unionlf.com.

$25 Cream **TOSS CUSHION,** HomeSense, homesense.ca.

$36 Velvet **TOSS CUSHION** in Teal, Pier 1 Imports, pier1.ca.

$3,200 Oyster linen Dromedary **SETTEE,** Constantine Living, constantineliving.com.

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East Paces **SIDE TABLE** in Antique Ivory, 25" x 27", $1,875, Hickory Chair, hickorychair.com.

who for tea?

IF, LIKE THE REST OF US, YOU'VE VOWED TO BE A BIT MORE LIKE THE DOWAGER COUNTESS THIS YEAR (*DOWNTON ABBEY*, ANYONE?), YOU MIGHT START BY HOSTING A FORMAL TEA SERVICE FOR YOUR FRIENDS. FIRST STEP? INVEST IN AN ELEGANT **TEA TABLE.** POPULARIZED IN THE 18TH CENTURY, IT WAS A FIXTURE OF UPPER-CLASS SITTING ROOMS, TUCKED TO ONE SIDE AND BROUGHT TO THE CENTRE FOR ELABORATE TEA SERVICE DISPLAYS. CELEBRATED FOR THEIR INTERESTING SIGHT LEVELS (THEY STAND ABOUT 10 INCHES TALLER THAN STANDARD SIDE TABLES) AND ELEGANT DETAILING, THESE UNIQUE PIECES ARE A NOD TO ANOTHER CENTURY AND A TRIBUTE TO OUR FAVOURITE PBS PERIOD DRAMA. SIGH, IF ONLY WE HAD OUR OWN STAFF TO SERVE THE TEA ITSELF....

SINGING THE BLUES?

Stylist Andrea McCrindle originally swathed the sitting room (shown at right) in pale colours to achieve a romantic, elegant look. To introduce interest, she layered soft patterns and rich textures for a demure charm. But Andrea didn't stop there; she amped up the visual appeal with a bold blast of on-trend turquoise for the second take of the room. It's something modern and unexpected in a mostly traditional space, and it counters the flirty femininity of the rest of the room. What do you think? Is a hit of the blue lagoon calling out to you, too? Paint tired candlesticks or a hand-me-down side table in one of these big blues.

Laguna Blue 2059-30, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

Gulf Grandeur 253-7, PPG Pittsburgh Paints, ppgpittsburghpaints.com.

Deep Sea Lagoon P5011-75, Para Paints, para.com.

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It's like an adaptable piece of art – a blank canvas that picks up the palette of any room it's in. Mirrors are a decorator's favourite tool to bounce light and visually expand a space, but **Venetian mirrors,** known for their mirrored-glass frame, intricate etching and ornate edging, add an old-world element and a dose of European flair.

Venetian **MIRROR,** $2,495, Putti Fine Furnishings, 416-972-7652.

When it's time to tackle the laundry, make sure that sock has nowhere to hide. Canadian Tire has everything you need to keep your laundry room organized, from versatile storage cabinets, shelving, and drying racks to laundry baskets and hampers. The laundry isn't going anywhere, but you can always help lighten the load.
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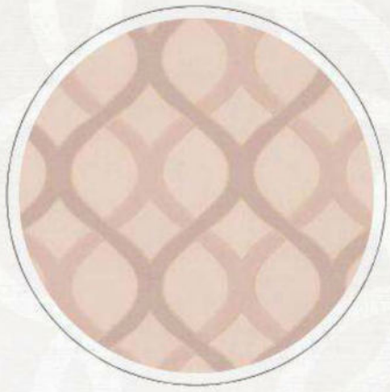
FROM TOP Highbury **WALLPAPER** in Cream, $75 US per roll, Graham & Brown, grahambrown.ca; Thibaut Geometric Resource Pearl Trellis **WALLPAPER** in Beige, $102 per roll, through designers, Kravet/Lee Jofa Showroom, kravetcanada.com.



Learn how to use accent colours to make your space pop. Check out **STYLEATHOME.COM/ACCENTCOLOURS.**

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1 • CRISP & CLASSIC

2 • LIGHT & LAID-BACK

3 • SHARP & SOPHISTICATED

4 • RELAXED & RUSTIC

These four laundry rooms offer a fun, lighter side to what's typically relegated to the dark, dingy basement. Believe it or not, they may even have you *wanting* to do laundry!

SO FRESH AND SO CLEAN

PHOTOGRAPHY, BARRY CALHOUN

LAUNDRY ROOM 411

THE SIZE
8 by 10 feet

THE PLAN To incorporate as much counter space and built-in cabinetry as possible to maximize the oddly shaped triangular space.

THE LOOK Warm whites, soothing greys and pale green all come together to create a room that's polished with a touch of elegance.

• CRISP & CLASSIC •

DESIGNER KELLY DECK wants to bring beauty and ease to everyday tasks. "Laundry and utility spaces are often neglected," she says. "With a little more care and attention, they could be much more user-friendly. These rooms work hard!" In this Vancouver model home by Blakewood Homes, Kelly injected the triangular-shaped room with plenty of functional features – like the hanging rod and large surface for folding and sorting – and loads of style, too, from the glass knobs to the fancy chandelier. The calm, white space gets a subtle hit of colour from pale spring green ceramic tile on the backsplash. "A laundry room doesn't need to be dramatic and sexy, and I didn't want the backsplash to be distracting or glitzy. I prefer quiet, clean and pleasant to spend time in." Mission accomplished.

DESIGN, Kelly Deck Design, kellydeck.com; **WASHER & DRYER,** Frigidaire; **CABINETRY,** Art's Custom Woodcrafting; White Dove OC-17 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; DuPont Zodiaq quartz **COUNTERTOPS** in Snow White, Willis; porcelain **FLOOR TILES,** Centura.

PHOTOGRAPHY, BARRY CALHOUN

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1 SPLISH SPLASH An extra-deep sink and restaurant-style faucet turn washing garments by hand into a simple task.

2 HANG IN THERE A folding counter and four feet of hanging space make for a supremely functional laundry nook. Front-loading appliances in cool silver are energy efficient and stylish.

3 SQUARE DEAL Pretty spring green square ceramic tiles laid in a brick pattern make up the backsplash. Ceramic is durable and easy to clean.

4 LIGHT WORK The inexpensive pearl-and-glass light fixture over the sink "adds a bit of character to the room and is more fun than a boring pot light," says designer Kelly Deck.

5 CAST AWAY Plenty of closed storage means that laundry isn't the only thing this room can handle. Household tools, craft supplies and cleaning products can all be stashed out of sight in the cabinets.

Aquabrass Wizard **FAUCET,** Artistic Baths; Bright & Matte ceramic **BACKSPLASH TILES** in Spearmint, American Olean; RT128 **LIGHT FIXTURE,** Bethel International.

PHOTOGRAPHY, BARRY CALHOUN

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LAUNDRY ROOM 411

THE SIZE
10 by 10 feet

THE PLAN To design an attractive pass-through area that acts as both the laundry room and the mud room.

THE LOOK Inspired by the home's coastal surroundings, whites mingle with deep blues and subtle yellows for a scheme that evokes a charming, casual vibe.

• LIGHT & LAID-BACK •

THE BRIGHT and airy coastal feel of this 5,000-square-foot home on Prince Edward Island carries through to the main-floor laundry room and mud room. Susan Snow, who designed the summer home for Calgary couple Susan and Shane Stark, applied beadboard to every wall in the space. "We wanted lots of charm in here, since it's a pass-through from the back entrance," she says. Two teenage daughters coming and going from the beach also required the room to be outfitted with a row of hooks for towels and totes and drawers for flip-flops.

1 DEEP WATERS The jumping-off point was the deep-blue washer and dryer, which provide a big hit of colour in the predominantly white room. The stacked appliances are a space-saving solution that leaves room for valuable custom features like a built-in bench.

2 BEHIND CLOSED DOORS Loads of storage in the form of cabinetry and a bench with drawers underneath mean that clutter is kept at bay. Stacks of towels neatly displayed on the open shelving are easy to grab for overnight guests or a day at the beach.

DESIGN, Moving Designz, movingdesignz.com; **CONTRACTING,** Bayside Builders; **WASHER & DRYER,** Frigidaire; **LAUNDRY BASKET,** Moving Designz; porcelain **FLOOR TILES,** Olympia Tile & Stone; **TOTE BAGS, RUG** (similar), Dash & Albert Rug Company.

PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY VAN BERKEL

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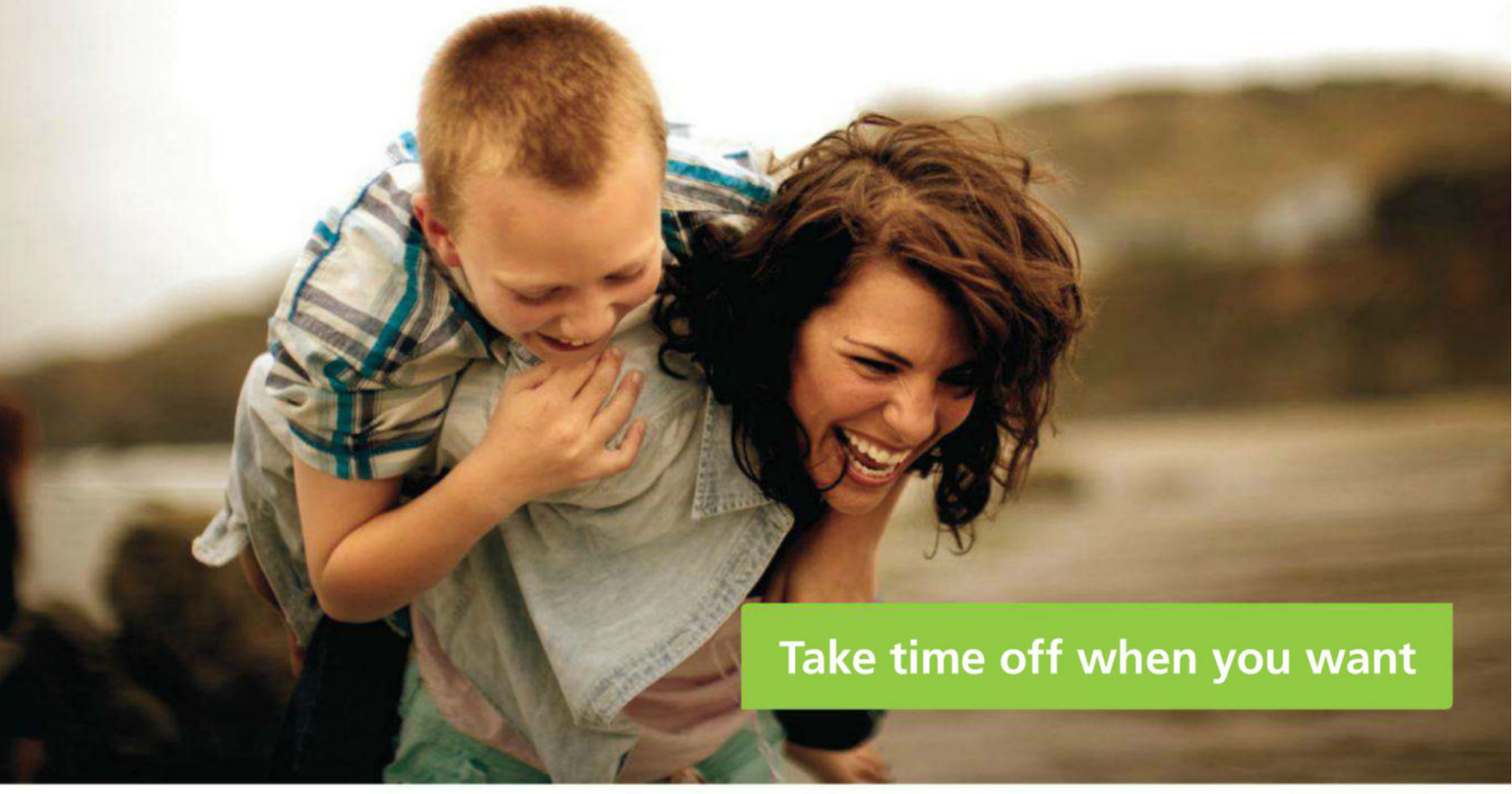

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• SHARP & SOPHISTICATED •

1 DRY SPELL A hanging rod provides a spot to dry handwashed items.

2 OUT THE WINDOW The low window meant that the placement options of the washer and dryer were limited, so designer Irene Langlois chose stacking models to save space and allow room for a sink. Shutters on the bottom section of the window allow light to flood the space while still maintaining privacy.

DESIGN, Irene Langlois Interiors, irenelanglois.com; **WASHER & DRYER,** LG; Titanium 2141-60 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Benjamin Moore.

LAUNDRY ROOM 411

THE SIZE
6 by 8 feet

THE PLAN To seamlessly mesh the look and feel of the laundry room with the other rooms on the floor.

THE LOOK Custom millwork in a contemporary coastal style and a palette of soft greys and snappy whites lend the space an air of sophistication.

IN AN EXTENSIVE RENO that turned the entire second floor of this 1920s Ottawa home into a master suite complete with bedroom, ensuite, dressing room and laundry facilities, designer Irene Langlois ensured that this hard-working space would be just as handsome as the rest of the house. "I thought it should have the same level of detail," she says. Statuario marble countertops, Carrara marble floors and custom cabinetry painted a soft, pale grey keep the room warm and inviting, while the deep sink and hanging rod ensure that the space functions perfectly.

PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY VAN BERKEL

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LAUNDRY ROOM 411

THE SIZE
11 by 7 feet

THE PLAN To create a dual-purpose space that captures the essence of the adjoining kitchen.

THE LOOK Reminiscent of a European farmhouse, this rustic room possesses both modern and traditional elements in its rich finishes and architectural features.

• RELAXED & RUSTIC •

TO ENSURE that this laundry room echoed the elegance of the traditional kitchen into which it leads, designer Nam Dang-Mitchell specified the same warm grey cabinets and travertine tile floors and carried the beadboard that surrounds the kitchen's island onto the laundry room walls. "I wanted this space to have a timeless, utilitarian European feel," she explains of the room within the spacious three-bedroom model home by Calgary's Mission Homes. The deep farmhouse-style sink is convenient for handwashing delicates and does double duty for the room's additional use as a potting area.

1 OPEN CONCEPT Two open shelves above the sink keep supplies within easy reach. Beadboard wainscotting continues onto the backsplash, offering a less costly alternative to tile.

2 MULTI-TASKER Recessed-panel cabinetry, a decorative detail on the toe kick and polished nickel hardware give this room enough refinement to stand next to the home's elegant kitchen. Undercounter appliances mean there's plenty of space above for folding clothes or potting plants.

3 HIDEOUT Travertine tile with a matte finish has a beautiful, subtle veining that hides dirt and dust. The seagrass rug is a durable and practical choice in the utilitarian room.

DESIGN, Nam Dang-Mitchell Design, namdangmitchell.com; **WASHER & DRYER,** Bosch; Dawn Mist 32-25 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Pratt & Lambert; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Restoration Hardware; Caesarstone Lagos Blue 4350 **COUNTERTOP,** Alberta Marble & Tile; Ocean Blue travertine **FLOOR TILES,** Nu-Way Floor Fashions.

PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY VAN BERKEL

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HELLO, SAILOR!

TEXT ERYN CHESNEY

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL GRAYDON

A perennial summer favourite, nautical style gets a fun Canadian refresh this year with the addition of rustic-chic fisherman-inspired products that are as lively as the sea itself. This sprightly coastal look will lure you in (and keep you hooked!).

When we saw this cozy P.E.I. cottage owned by Kevin Austin, a Toronto-based antiques retailer, we were charmed by the cheery kitchen with its palette of fresh white, warm wood tones and coastal blues. Blue and white are, of course, the hallmarks of nautical style, and here they work alongside other familiar details, such as the porcelain sink and vintage-looking faucet, harbour-style pendant light and antique oyster tin, to create a subtle seaside theme. But it was the cheeky blue and white lobster-motif curtains – a modern influence on this classic scheme – that we couldn't resist. This fun and friendly aesthetic was what inspired our take on the look (see next page), moving from the traditional stripes and sailcloth to an aquatic feast worthy of being called the catch of the day at a fisherman's wharf.

APPLIANCES, GE Appliances, geappliances.ca; **BLINDS,** The Home Depot, homedepot.ca; **FRAME, SHELF, HARDWARE,** IKEA, ikea.ca; Beauti-Tone Style at Home Colour Collection Paperwhite SD036 **PAINT,** Home Hardware, homehardware.ca; Shellfish **FABRIC** in Marine, through designers, Suzanne Brown & Associates, designerswalk.com; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Saltillo Imports, saltillo-tiles.com.

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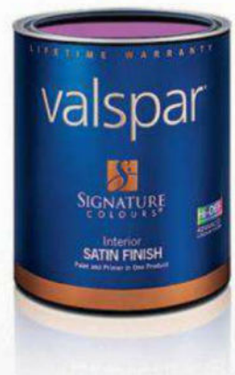

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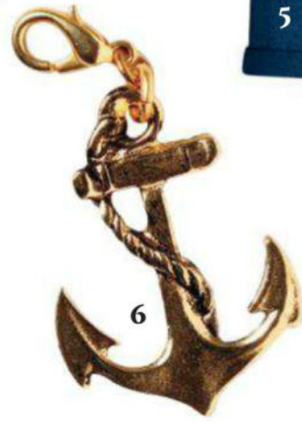
COASTAL STYLE
GET THE LOOK



1 Float Drop **NECKLACE** in Azure, $100, Fleet Objects, fleetobjects.com.

2 Lantern **DRINK DISPENSER,** $155, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

3 Whale & Striped **POUCHES,** $12 each, Chapters, Indigo, indigo.ca.

4 Skinny Woven Turnlock **CUFF** in Blue, $105, Tory Burch, toryburch.com.

5 Bradburn Company Redondo Beach **TABLE LAMP,** $880, Barrymore Furniture, barrymorefurniture.com.

6 The Collector's Anchor **CHARM** in Gold, $18, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

7 Rope Bin Collection **BASKETS** in Cobalt, $38 US (cubby), $88 US (low round bin), $98 US (hamper), Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com.

8 Medium rectangular **TRAY** in maple with sapele wood stripes, $155 US, Nautical Boards, nauticalboards.com.

9 Stripes ice cream **BOWLS,** $5 each, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

10 White Rope **TOTE,** $250 US, Jonathan Adler, jonathanadler.com.

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PHOTOGRAPHY
VIRGINIA MACDONALD

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fresh-cut whites

Freed from the garden, these beautiful blooms bring a dose of pure, heaven-scented bliss to any room.

White blossoms are the blank slates of the flower kingdom: they can be built upon with any combination of colours and match anything that's already in your home – white or not. Senior style editor Ann Marie Favot craves white *anything*, but she loves white flowers in particular. "Whether you use a single stem or a whole bunch," she says, "white flowers bring light into your life." Layers of white in blooms and vessels give these arrangements a floating quality and an ethereal spirit that completes every room that they grace.

TEXT: SARA CATION

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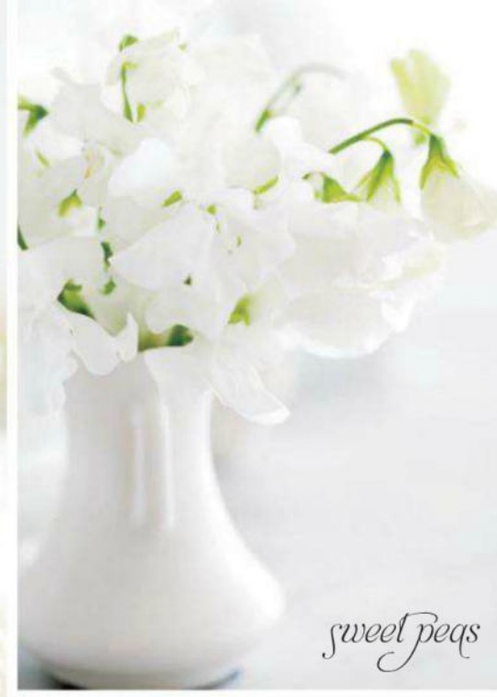
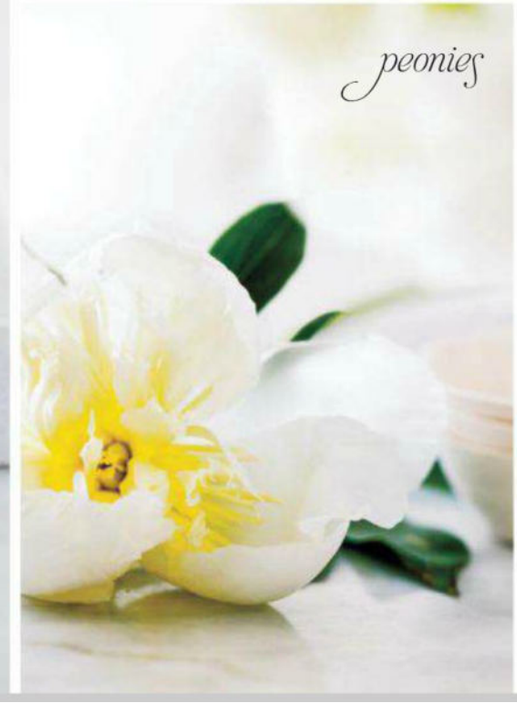
hyacinths & roses



sweet peas

hydrangeas



peonies

best floral whites

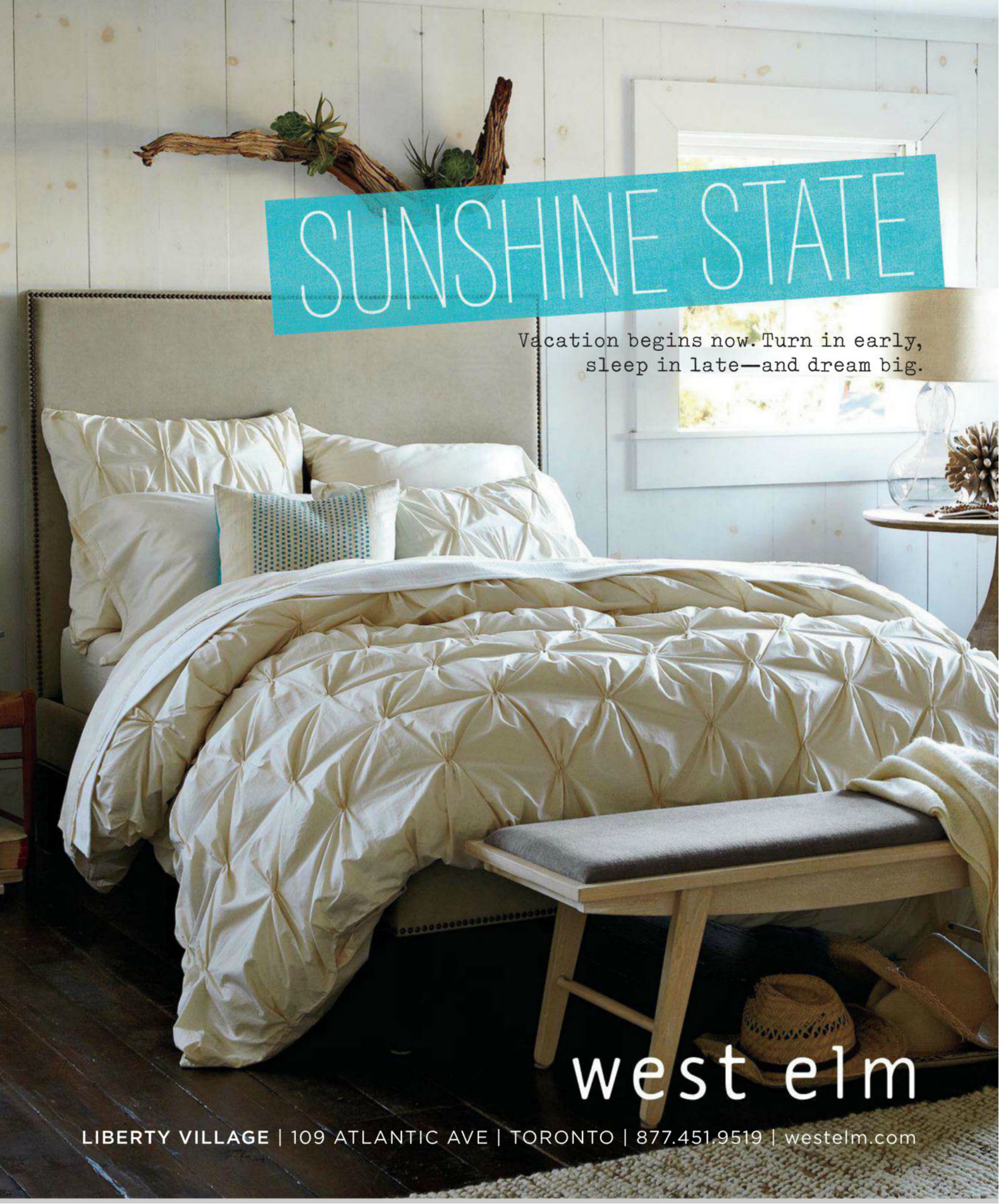
1 ranunculuses
Perfect for a tall, top-heavy arrangement, ranunculuses, with their seemingly infinite layers of petals, create a fancy, if not formal, look.

2 hyacinths & roses
A centrepiece overflowing with hyacinths and roses smells like sweet (decor) success.

3 sweet peas
Set out just a tiny bouquet of trailing sweet peas and you'll romance the ruffles for days to come.

4 hydrangeas
Teeming with tiny florets, hydrangeas seem to bring a thousand blooms home.

5 peonies
Pretty peonies are full of flip-floppy volume for a casual countryside bouquet.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STYLING
LARA MCGRAW

PHOTOGRAPHY
EDWARD POND

white teas

white splash

It's time to look at plain old dishware in a whole new light because white isn't boring if it's styled right.

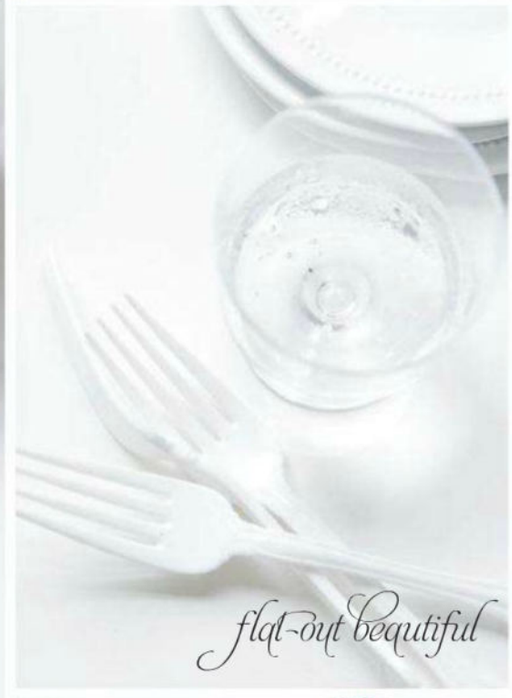
Out from the kitchen cupboard and proudly on display, white dishware gets new-found appeal thanks to stylist Lara McGraw's amazing eye for choosing standout pieces. Take her to the antiques market and she'll find the most unique item on the table; the same thing goes in a sprawling big box store. When it comes to colourless white, shape and texture become even more important to make a statement. Here are our favourite pieces.

TEXT: SARA CATION

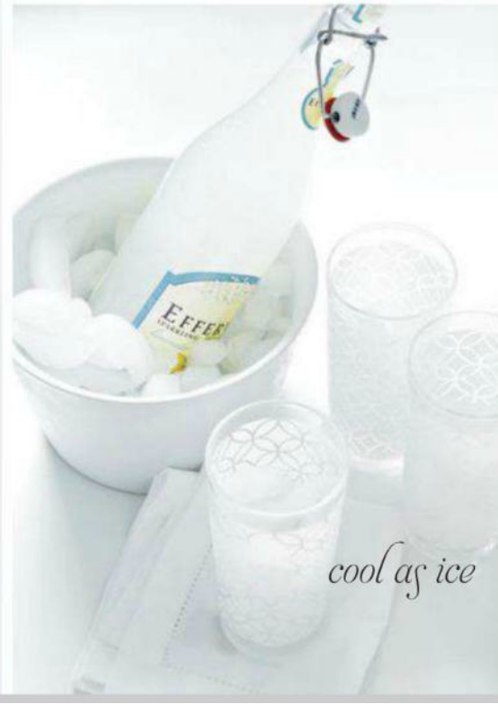
Beauti·spot
MOUNTAIN ASH
Beauti·Tone
CANADA'S PAINT EXPERTS
Sit back, relax and drink in the surroundings. Ahh, the colours of the Canadian outdoors in all their splendour, brought to you by Wood·Shield. Lead and mercury free, tintable, and fully guaranteed, Wood·Shield is formulated to withstand the extremes of our Canadian climate. Truly Canadian Wood·Shield by Beauti·Tone: as beautiful and as rugged as this country.
Actual paint colour may not be as shown. Available exclusively at Home Hardware and Building Centre locations.
beauti-tone.ca
Beauti begins at Home.

personali-tea

vase variety



flat-out beautiful



cool as ice

best kitchen whites

1 tea sets
With their curvaceous shape, teapots and creamers are voluptuous beauties.

2 serveware
Scrumptious desserts displayed on an ornate cake stand read divine and delicious.

3 vases
A collection of vases – from porcelain to milk glass – looks beautiful even without the flowers.

4 flatware
A great way to keep to your all-white palette in an unexpected way.

5 food & drink
Serve up some all-white fare to complete your all-white tablescape.

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Experience the feeling of surprising hydration, from your razor. New Schick Hydro Silk™ razor has water-activated moisturizing serum that hydrates your skin for up to two hours, longer than any other razor. And 5 blades with skin guards help reduce irritation, leaving your skin silky smooth. FREE YOUR SKIN®
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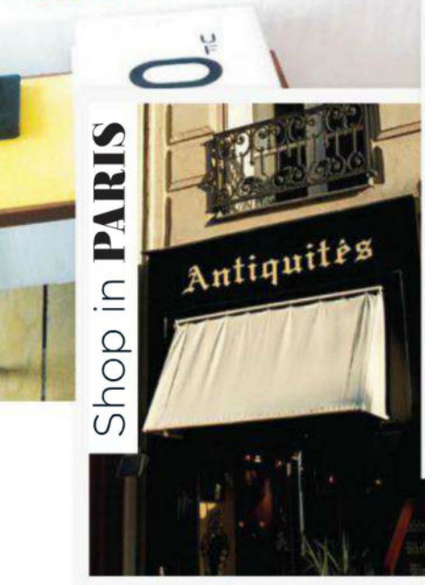
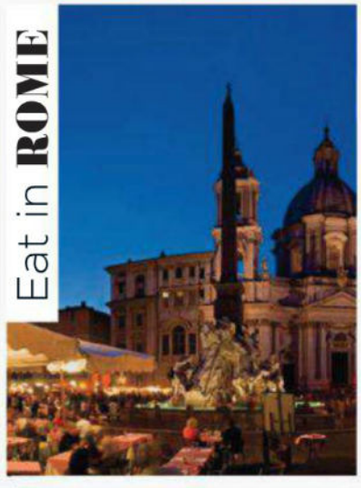


Shop in **PARIS**



Eat in **ROME**

Style at Home is sending one lucky reader and a guest on the **ultimate 3-city European vacation** valued at

$15,000!

Style at Home's Editor-in-chief **Erin McLaughlin** and publisher **Caroline Andrews** will be your hosts as you visit three exquisite destinations. Indulge in the food, sights and shopping in Europe's most stylish cities: **Rome, Paris and London.**

GRAND PRIZE INCLUDES*

- Round-trip airfare for winner and guest
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- Set of Victorinox Spectra luggage for winner and guest

*Itinerary subject to change

eat·shop DECORATE styleathome

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V&A

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No purchase necessary. Contest starts April 9, 2012 and ends June 20, 2012. Contest is open to all legal residents of Canada, 18 years of age or older. To enter online go to: styleathome.com/eatshopdecorate. There is one (1) grand prize available to be won (Value: $15,000). Travel will occur in Fall/Winter 2012. One hundred random semi-finalists will be selected and asked to submit an essay and photo. Winner will be declared by judging panel. Winner and guest must have valid travel documents before they can be declared the winner. Visit styleathome.com for eligibility requirements and complete contest rules.

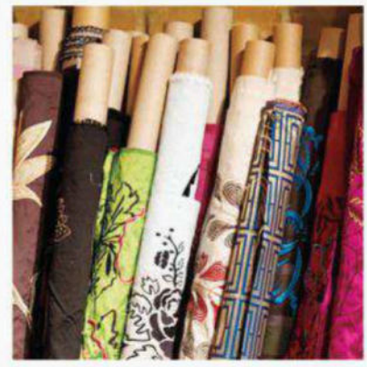
PHOTOGRAPHY, CHRISTOPHER DRAKE, SANDRA LANE

LONDON CALLING

Whether you're a designer, decorator or simply love great style, London is a hot spot for the hip and trendy.

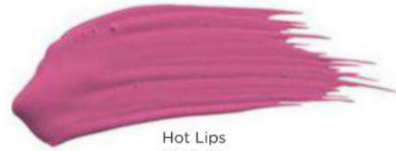
Whatever you prefer, royal pageantry or rustic pubs, Rule Britannia inspires a look that you'll want to bring home.

Whenever we go abroad, we're inspired by arts and culture, architecture and, of course, the shops in an exciting destination. With its energizing mix of contemporary masterworks and historic pomp and ceremony, London embodies a style that's both old world *and* young at heart. London encourages you to return home and try a bold new paint colour, hang a Union Jack and whip up a meal from Jamie Oliver. **To get the inside scoop, *Style at Home* talked to the trusted travel and service experts at American Express about what to experience in London and how to travel with ease.**

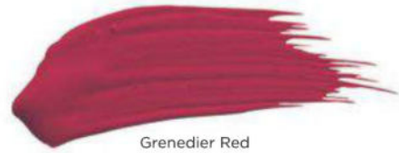


3 colours inspired by London

Seraph
C2-492,
C2 Paint.



Hot Lips
2077-30,
Benjamin Moore.



Grenedier Red
3-14,
Pratt & Lambert.

5 best finds in London

- Splurge on a scent straight from the English countryside with a bottle of floral perfume from venerable toiletries purveyor **FLORIS.** Go one step further and purchase one of their incomparable goose-down powder puffs.
- Relive your trip in the days to come by making an afternoon cuppa from a tin of true **ENGLISH TEA.**
- Liven up your kitchen with a cheery, kitschy tea towel from **CATH KIDSTON.**
- Buy some of the world's best lingerie from good old **MARKS & SPENCER** – and don't miss their fantastic range of homewares.
- Throw on a lady-like scarf in a **LIBERTY PRINT** for that sense of English charm.

3 ways Amex helps you travel with ease

Lost your card at Buckingham Palace?

American Express offers Emergency Card replacement, whereby Cardmembers can call Amex's Customer Care support line from anywhere in the world and Amex will arrange for a new Card within 24 hours.

Looking for that something extra?

American Express offers Platinum and Centurion Cardmembers concierge services, going far above and beyond any other Card company. The staff is always prepared to assist day and night – from locating hard-to-find products to delivering a special bottle of wine to finding a Cardmember's vacation suite.

Be extra secure.

American Express's flexible insurance plans offer carefree coverage to Cardmembers and their families. From emergency-medical to trip-cancellation insurance, Cardmembers and their families can travel with confidence and focus on having a great travel experience.

Count on American Express to give you the best tips to navigate the city. Gerry Parent, Director of Membership Travel Services, Amex Canada, answers your questions.

From a decor perspective, what museum is not to be missed?

The Victoria and Albert Museum is the world's greatest museum of art and design and also features the best of British design. It's definitely a must-see.

What are the best neighbourhoods for window shopping?

It depends on what you're looking for. You can find deals and bargains on Portobello Road or at Camden Market. If you want designer pieces, head for Knightsbridge (Harrods) or Bond Street.

Is the food really as bland as they say?

London actually has some of the best restaurants in the world – a fine class of globally recognized Michelin-starred eateries. Check out squaremeal.co.uk or speak with your hotel concierge, who can recommend some fabulous restaurants based on your cuisine preference and location.

Should I even try to navigate the Tube?

Yes, of course! The Tube network is not only part of London's Victorian heritage but also the easiest way to navigate the city, unless you walk or spend huge amounts on costly black cabs or bus routes that are often slowed by London traffic. The Tube is quick and efficient, and you can collect a comprehensive map from any Tube station.

How should I book a theatre show?

Book shows via ticketmaster.co.uk or directly through your concierge. You can buy tickets from the theatre on the day of the performance or pop in to Covent Garden and see the agents based there for any last-minute tickets available. Check out theatremonkey.co.uk for theatre listings in the West End.

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Go Further

* No purchase necessary. For full contest rules and to enter, visit www.winwithanedge.ca (complete all mandatory fields, upload a photo portraying your "creative edge" depicting: (a) an activity relevant to the prize (fashion, food, or design) you wish to contend for; (b) your creativeedge; and (c) your fun side, select the prize (fashion, food, or design) you wish to contend for, and click "submit". Open only to residents of Canada who are of the age of majority in your province/territory of residence and hold a graduated level valid driver's license. Contest closes at 11:59:59EST on June 17, 2012. Limit of one (1) entry per person, per prize. Three (3) prizes (Approx. value of CAD$5,000 each) available to be won in Canada, each consisting of a weekend trip for two (2) to either Montreal, Toronto, or Vancouver. Odds of winning depend on the number of entries received and the ability of each photo to best meet the judging criteria. Prizes may not be exactly as shown in Contest publicity materials. Skill testing question required.

JULY **2012**

simplicity AT HOME

SERENE WHITES IN A MIX THAT'S JUST RIGHT

88 *vintage whites* | 94 *easy living* | 102 *pale & playful*

PHOTOGRAPHY, AME00011423409 PHOTOSHOT/RED COVER/ANASTASSIOS MENTIS

DECORATING LESSONS

VINTAGE WHITES

TEXT
SARA CATION

STYLING
TARA BALLANTYNE

PHOTOGRAPHY
DONNA GRIFFITH

1 BUDDING BEAUTY
Egg-shaped ceramics in a subtle satin finish contribute to this home's pretty, rustic beach-house appeal.

1

2 RELAXED ELEGANCE
In the living room, style and food editor Tara Ballantyne made a gallery of white frames to display homeowner Becky Finch's old artwork (the piece on the bottom left is a kindergarten drawing) and favourite greeting cards. Empty white frames fill in the gaps.

FLOORING (throughout), RnR Flooring; **FLOWERS** (throughout), Les Fleurs Floral Boutique; **SOFA, RUG,** IKEA; wooden **SIDE TABLE,** grey woven **BASKET,** West Elm; **SIDECHAIR, TABLE LAMPS,** HomeSense; **ARTWORK** (three at bottom right), Cybèle Young.

Becky (shown at far left) and Tara have been best friends since grade school.

bird's eye *view*

A pale aesthetic and a touch of nostalgia create sublime, soothing appeal in this modern-life house that's truly a home.

When they first met in grade two, *Style at Home*'s style and food editor, Tara Ballantyne (née Bird), and homeowner Becky Finch thought they were siblings – or, at least, cousins – due to their ornithic roots. And though the pair may not be related in actuality, they've felt like sisters ever since. (You know what they say about birds of a feather....) So when Becky asked Tara to help decorate her first home, a one-and-a-half-storey wartime in Waterloo, Ont., Tara knew exactly what she meant by "a sophisticated beach look with just a touch of glam and sparkle." With layers of pale colour, luxe texture and well-worn vintage finds, Tara created a finely feathered nest – a roost Becky's proud to rule. We'd say it's a soaring success.

3

"Soft grey walls warm up the white room. The space still feels light and neutral, but doesn't read as stark."

TARA BALLANTYNE, STYLE AND FOOD EDITOR

3 DREAMY DINING "Soft grey walls warm up the white room," says Tara. "The space still feels light and neutral, but doesn't read as stark." The dining table and bench were built by Becky's dad.

4 WELL-CURATED CABINET Belonging to Becky's grandma, this cabinet was refinished with a dose of white paint (thanks to Becky's dad) and is filled with sentimental trinkets, old and new: the owl, part of a collection that started with a gift from her grandma; the piano lamp, a tribute to her love of playing; and the black-handled milk jug, which is a family heirloom.

Owl **SCULPTURE,** West Elm; lidded **STORAGE BOX,** IKEA.

5 A CASE OF CHARM In the stairwell by the back entrance, beige shag carpet was torn up to reveal well-worn wooden stairs. Their milky white wash is fitting alongside the old milk-delivery door (at right of the shoes). Because this back entry lacks space, a simple coat rack above the stairs stands in as a place to hang jackets, scarves and dog leashes.

6 SWEET DREAMS In the bedroom, Tara layered white, ivory and cream in tantalizing textures, from the knitted toss cushion and seersucker quilt to the cotton bedding and linen bedskirt. Sheer, subtly patterned drapery lets in the light for that warm midsummer feel all year long.

HEADBOARD, EQ3; knitted **TOSS CUSHION, QUILT, BIRDCAGE, SIDE TABLE,** West Elm; **SHEEPSKIN,** IKEA.

7 PLUSH PILES Make functional displays out of everyday items like blankets, table linens and pretty clothing. The layering of many different textures in the same shade achieves a plush, cozy look.

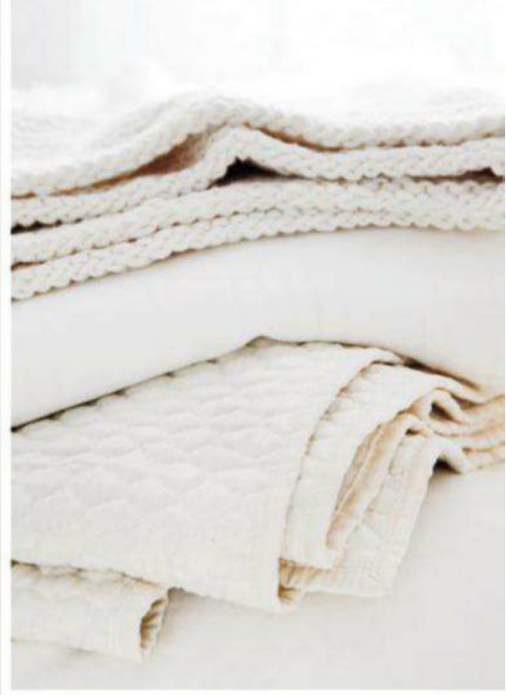
8 A GLIMPSE OF GLAMOUR Becky's dad built the chest of drawers in her bedroom (as he did with many rustic pieces throughout the house). Adding a wink of glamour, the chandelier matches the chest's crystal knobs. They're the same knobs used on the kitchen cabinets, visually linking the bedroom to the rest of the house.

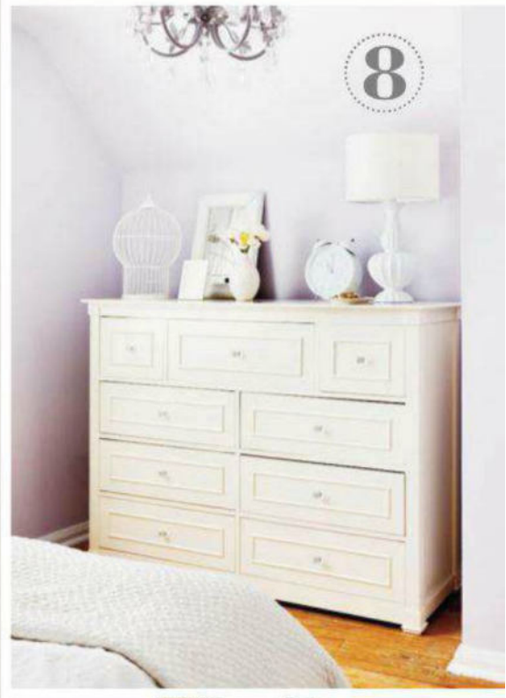
TABLE LAMP, HomeSense; **BIRDCAGE,** West Elm.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

To see how Tara decorated her own Waterloo, Ont. home, see page 102.

7





For our online guide to decorating with white, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/DECORATEWITHWHITE.**

With spectacular views of the ocean and the diverse landscape, it only makes sense that tearing down walls and installing expanses of large windows would be at the top of this homeowner's list. And decorated with a light hand and a soft palette, this East Coast family cottage enlightens the senses and cures the soul.

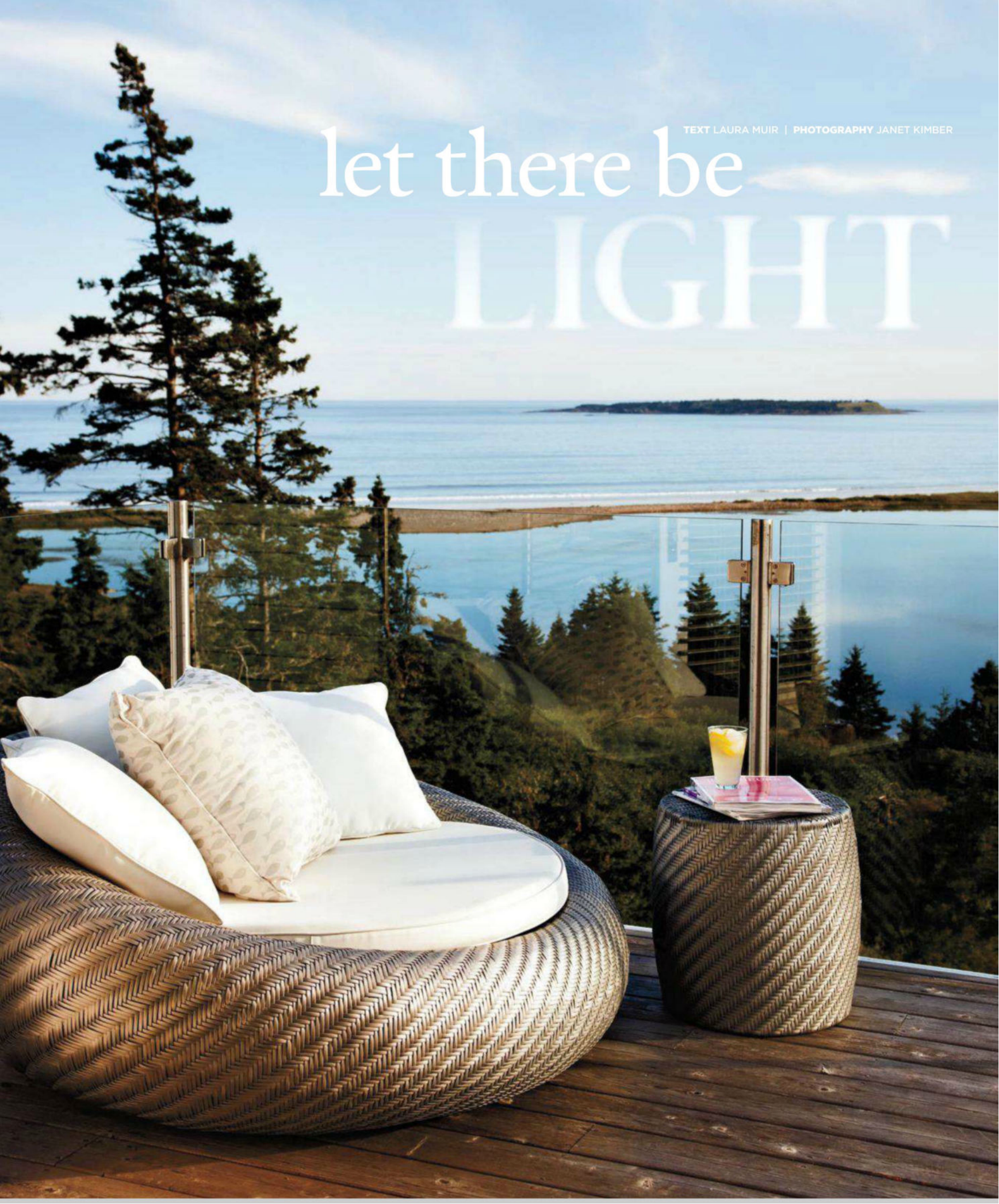
Hunter, the pug belonging to the son of homeowner and designer Laura Fisher, stands on the new quartz stairs, which lead up to the loft area where Laura's studio is located. "Originally, the set of stairs encumbered the fireplace [previously a wood stove] on its backside, but we wanted to make the fireplace a central focus for the dining and living areas," says architect Diana Carl. To that end, they moved the stairs against the wall, also freeing up room to create a larger dining space. The doorway leads to the master suite.

DESIGN, Laura Fisher Design, 902-766-0373; Whitecap Gray 25-32 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Pratt & Lambert; Caesarstone Blizzard 2141 **STAIRS**, Nova Tile & Marble; French Oak **FLOORING** (throughout), Nikzad.

OPPOSITE A clear glass railing encloses the loft studio's balcony and allows for views of the pond and the ocean beyond. "Being right on the water, it gets really windy up there," says Diana, "so this makes for a much better wind barrier than an open railing."

TEXT LAURA MUIR | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JANET KIMBER

let there be LIGHT



"It took about three minutes for me to decide to buy this place," says homeowner and designer Laura Fisher. Living in Calgary at the time, Laura had become well acquainted with Nova Scotia while visiting her son at Dalhousie University in Halifax, and she thought it would be an ideal spot to own a family cottage. When she was in the province in October of 2007, she rented a car and drove around the area south of Lunenburg, armed with a list of 20 properties. "I think this was one of the last on the list, and as soon as I looked around I said, 'This is it!'"

The distinctively modern structure – designed by architects from the United States and built by local builders four years earlier – stood high up on a forested, five-acre site and was immersed in nature on all sides. While it was the sense of privacy and the panoramic views – from a small pond to the vast expanse of ocean to meadows and rolling hills – that drew Laura to this property, she also saw potential in the cottage itself. "It had a good feeling," she says.

Even though the interior had a makeshift quality with a few big box furnishings placed here and there, its open-concept spaces and arched ceilings – 15 feet at the highest point and 12 at the lowest – gave the house a sense of airy grandness. Its layout also appealed to Laura, with features like the master suite tucked away on one end.

But still, the cottage's architecturally bold look needed to be "hushed," so Laura enlisted architect Diana Carl to help her create the refined aesthetic she desired. "We really wanted to soften the form," says Diana. "It has very distinct lines and was quite busy, so inside what we aimed to do was respect the large open space but really quiet it down and turn it toward the water."

In an extensive renovation that lasted 18 months, they gutted the cottage back to the drywall. To take better advantage of the light and spectacular surroundings, larger windows and doors were

White clapboard siding suits both the muted interior and the vernacular of the East Coast.

The kitchen's white lacquered cabinetry is punctuated with prominent frosted-glass-and-nickel hardware, which evokes the look of sea glass. A glass-panelled door leads to a sandstone-covered terrace. "We felt the sandstone complemented the weathered wood floors on the inside," says Diana.

SINK, FAUCET, The Plumbing Barn; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Mockett; Caesarstone Blizzard 2141 **COUNTERTOPS,** Nova Tile & Marble.

TOP RIGHT Covered in split-faced quartz, the massive fireplace serves as a strong architectural feature that demarcates the entryway and living and dining areas in the open-concept space.

QUARTZ, Norstone.

BOTTOM RIGHT To create a seamless feel in the cottage, a limited selection of materials was used. For instance, the white quartz on the kitchen countertops was also used on the stairs.

OPPOSITE "The loft is clad in aluminum siding to go along with the windows," says Diana. And it's also the one beacon on the building: From the water, it looks like a silver box connected to two white wings.

OPPOSITE The living area's muted palette of white, grey and steely blue enhances the cottage's relaxed, elegant style, and the oak floors suit the coastal setting with their light wood tone reminiscent of driftwood. This side of the cottage faces the water and features new, larger windows that go all the way to the ground to connect the cottage interior to its spectacular surroundings.

RUG, Colin Campbell; Dragon Medallion
STOOL, Peridot.

RIGHT "The dining nook juts out further from the rest of the house," says Laura. In this dining area, casual slipcovered chairs surround a table made from a giant teak root topped with glass. The capiz drum light fixture complements the cottage's beachside vibe.

DINING TABLE, Domicile Interiors; capiz drum
LIGHT FIXTURE, Peridot.

"We respected the large open space but quieted it down and turned it toward the water."

DIANA CARL, ARCHITECT

installed on the south side of the house, which faces the water, and the front garden-side windows were left smaller to maintain privacy. The property came with a guest cottage, and they connected it to the main house by building a breezeway, which they called "the link."

The resulting 3,200-square-foot space was kept mostly open concept. "We tried to keep the interior walls to a minimum," says Diana. Instead of walls, functional elements delineate rooms without impeding flow. For instance, in the master suite, it's the walk-in closet's cabinets that separate the closet area and the bedroom. And the massive fireplace serves to divide the entryway from the living and dining areas while acting as the space's central focal point.

To lend the cottage a sense of calming seamlessness, the same luxurious finishes were used throughout. "We just picked a couple and stuck with them," says Laura. The mix of white lacquered millwork, rich Calacatta marble, weathered French oak floors and white quartz creates a soothing monochromatic backdrop and evokes a coastal vibe. Layering in textural elements, statement pieces and a collection of Laura's favourite artwork makes the cottage inviting and comfortable.

Beyond that, with its understated, elegant look, the family cottage now possesses the decidedly tranquil ambience Laura knew it could have all along. "Visitors say to me, 'Wow, it just feels good here' or 'It's so calm here,'" she says. "It's like a home for the soul."

A mud room offering extra closets and a storage bench is located in the breezeway that ties the guest cottage to the main house.

CLOCK, Peridot; **TOSS CUSHION,** 31 Westgate.

RIGHT Calacatta marble tiles cover the walls in the master bathroom, giving the room a decidedly warm and luxurious look. The statement chandelier is a sculptural element that anchors the tub and offsets the space's clean lines.

CHANDELIER, Brand van Egmond; **BATHTUB,** Plumbing Barn; Calacatta marble **WALL TILES,** Stone Tile International; **RUG,** HomeSense.

OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT The back of the quartz fireplace provides a textural focal point in the entryway and lends visual interest among the cottage's muted neutral tones.

CHAIR, Robert Sweep Homefurnishings; **ARTWORK** by Julian Schnabel, Newzones.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT In the guest bedroom, which boasts its own private terrace, a custom captain's bed tucked in between two built-in cabinets makes good use of the small space.

ARTWORK by Bill Fisher, Newzones.

"It's comforting and easy living when you have a sense of place and space. And the house has its own identity from one end to the other." DIANA CARL, ARCHITECT

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

Mujer
Primaveral

Scandi-Canadian on a shoestring

Pairing her Canadian roots with her flair for Scandinavian design, *Style at Home* style and food editor Tara Ballantyne creates a budget-friendly look that's all her own.

TEXT BETHANY LYTTLE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** VIRGINIA MACDONALD

Grey paint elevates this wooden candlestick into a piece that nods to the home's Scandinavian influence. Fresh flowers and a serving tray perfect the pretty vignette. "I can't commit to art because I change my mind a lot," says homeowner Tara Ballantyne. Instead, she designates spaces where she can arrange things as it strikes her mood.

TRAY, wooden **BOWL,** IKEA.

Sitting in her office, Tara points out that one wall is covered with magnetic panels to hold her ever-changing tear sheets and inspirations. The sofa was a gift, and the piggy bank is evidence of Tara's love for including at least one fun, funny or quirky element in a room.

Le Corbusier LC2 **SOFA,** Design Within Reach; **BLANKET,** black **MAGNETS, FRAMES,** metal **BOXES,** IKEA; Areaware **PIGGY BANK,** Bon Mot; **BOWL,** Chapters, Indigo; **PLATE,** Stony Lake Furniture.

Tara Ballantyne

Ever notice how you can do something for years, then all of a sudden – eureka! – it truly becomes your own? That's what happened to *Style at Home* style and food editor Tara Ballantyne following a two-year stint in Norway. "I'd been drawn to Scandinavian design for years," she says, "but it took actually living in Oslo for it to really become part of my style." And by the time Tara returned home to Waterloo, Ont., it all clicked: She saw all the ways that Canadian and Scandinavian design approaches actually overlap. In both countries, interior design alludes to landscapes that are rich in lakes, forests, rivers and mountains. And in both places, coziness – especially during the winter – is key. "There are differences," says Tara. "Canadian design tends to be fuller and draw on deeper hues for comfort, while Scandinavian design is cleaner and relies on lighter tones to combat darkness when the sun goes down so early." But bringing together these two styles in her own home wasn't Tara's only goal: She wanted the entire makeover of her rickety 900-square-foot 1980s duplex for under $10,000 – including the construction of a new kitchen!

A white decor theme allows you to group together objects of every type to create instant vignettes.

FLOWERS (throughout), Les Fleurs Floral Boutique; **TEAPOT,** Bon Mot.

OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT
Tara painted her grandmother's dresser to use as a sideboard in the dining room. The Danish Wishbone dining chairs were a splurge, but Tara compensated for the spend by updating other inexpensive pieces with a coat of paint. The candlestick was an ugly acid green before Tara painted it a soothing grey, and the oak pedestal table also got a brand new white coat.

Barley Beige 30YY 68/024 **WALL PAINT,** Icon Grey 00NN 31/000 **SIDEBOARD PAINT,** CIL Paints; **FLOORING,** RnR Flooring; tall **CABINET,** white **CANISTER, BOX, PENDANT LIGHT,** IKEA; large clay **BOWL,** Stony Lake Furniture; Wishbone **CHAIRS,** Design Within Reach.

OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT
"Basically, I paid for this room with cases of beer," Tara says with a laugh, thankful for her best friends who helped her with the kitchen. One installed the floors; another, the plumbing; and a third, the ceiling lights. To further save money, Tara chose IKEA's most basic line of kitchen cabinets. And the subway tiles were only 49 cents each – a deal she scored at the Home Depot.

White **STOOLS,** IKEA; granite **COUNTERTOP,** Natural Stone City; steel Tolix Marais **STOOL,** Design Within Reach.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT
Tara's style is modern and clean, but it's also delightfully clever. Who else would see ugly bright purple lockers from the YMCA as a potential feature in a pale, spare living room? "Under the purple paint was more paint – in yellow!" she says. "I spent all my free time sanding them." She had seen a similar pre-sanded set in London, England, for $6,000. "But I wanted the look, not the expense."

FLOOR LAMP, SHEEPSKIN, IKEA; Eames **ARMCHAIR,** Design Within Reach.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT
Throughout the house, natural wood elements, such as these cutting boards, lend warmth but are light enough to keep rooms feeling bright.

"Looking back, it was pretty darn tight," she admits. "But honestly, a budget can be the best thing because it forces you to be creative. Some of my favourite things in this house were the result of happy accidents born out of budget-driven desperation, and in the end we were $2,000 *under* budget." Take the tree stump tables in the living room. "I saw these men cutting down wooden electrical poles and I ran over to ask for them. There I was in my heels, hauling these super-heavy, truly filthy stumps into the car!" And then came the hours upon hours of sanding. "I see now that it was crazy, but purchasing similar tables would have cost hundreds." Another cost-saving project? The living room's rustic wooden sideboard, which Tara made by covering three small tables with pieces of wood ripped from loading pallets. "I can't tell you how much hammering was involved," she says. But she loves the result. Its simple

A white Mid-Century Modern chair sits beside Tara's grandmother's dresser – which now serves as a sideboard in the dining room. Above the chair are keepsake ceramic plates created by Tara's artisan friend, Silje Anne Eriksen, in Norway.

Eames **SIDECHAIR,** Design Within Reach.

A plush sectional, unique accessories and an oversized clock set the tone for this white-on-white living room. The tree stump tables were created from a fallen electrical pole that Tara literally pulled over on the side of the road to ask some city electricians for. They bring more warm wood (and inventive furniture options) into the room.

Kivik **LOVESEAT & CHAISE LOUNGE,** black and white **TOSS CUSHIONS,** white **CUSHIONS, CANDLE HOLDER,** IKEA; **TABLE LAMP,** Muuto.

lines and natural wood are perfectly suited to Tara's Scandi-Canadian style.

Of all the places Tara cut costs, perhaps the most important was the kitchen, where she wanted the biggest overhaul. "Everything I bought was the most affordable on offer," she says. The granite on the countertops is the lowest grade available, and it's only used on the side of the island that's visible from the living room. The cabinets were in IKEA's least expensive range, and the floors in the main living area look like hardwood but are actually laminate. "It's easy to get myopic when you're renovating," she says. "You see each detail and stress about the small stuff. But the truth is, when you walk into a room, dozens of elements are working together. Nobody's staring at just one thing!"

Maybe not, but everybody's definitely taking a second look. Tara's style is irresistible. Characterized by a light, quiet palette, less-is-more furnishings and cheeky touches throughout the decor, her spaces are open yet inviting. "Spare decor is often considered unwelcoming or cold," she says. "But I'm a big believer in blankets and toss cushions. I'll happily pile about 20 on the sofa. After all, some things transcend geographical borders, and snuggling up on the sofa with a latte and a good book is one of them."

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

"When you walk into a room, dozens of elements are working together. Nobody's staring at just one thing."

TARA BALLANTYNE, HOMEOWNER

"I'm not a fan of carpet," says Tara. "I ripped it up immediately when I saw the plywood subfloor, which looks soothing and natural instead of the tan pile carpet that was there before." The bed was built from wooden pallets. "I like it because it's low and streamlined. But best of all, it was super-inexpensive to make," she says.

Linen **BEDDING, SHEEPSKIN, CLOCK,** IKEA; **HOOK, PENDANT LIGHT,** Muuto; Eames **SIDECHAIR,** Design Within Reach.

The house lacked closet space in the front entrance, so Tara took advantage of the landing (as you enter the main floor from the entryway) and created a functional nook with a wall-mounted organizer with small cubbies and paired it with a stepstool and a simple, oversized mirror. "It's small but sets the tone for the rest of the space, and it lets you drop your keys, check your outfit, hang your scarf and so on," she says.

MIRROR, STEPSTOOL, HAT RACK, BOXES, INSERT, IKEA.

Tara dishes on her love of design and more in just 20 questions at **STYLEATHOME.COM/TARABALLANTYNE.**

SUNDAY BEST

SWEET AND SAVOURY BREAKFAST IDEAS FOR LAZY SUMMER MORNINGS.

RECIPES & FOOD STYLING CLAIRE STUBBS | **PHOTOGRAPHY** EDWARD POND | **PROP STYLING** LARA MCGRAW & ANN MARIE FAVOT

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Slices
MEDIUM
12
Cracker Barrel
Slices
MEDIUM

If breakfast is supposed to be the most important meal of the day, we believe that where and how you eat it are just as crucial. A quick muffin on the run might be fine for a harried workday morning, but when you do have the time, we're all for indulging – if you're so inclined – in what can be considered an almost sinful luxury. Fluffy pillows, sumptuous linens, warm sunshine (although raindrops and grey skies are welcome, too!), your favourite magazine (this one, perhaps?) and cozy pyjamas are the setting. No alarm clocks, deadlines or intrusions allowed – just pure, unadulterated personal time. Are you tempted yet? What if we threw in some scrumptious recipes for buttery scones and cheesy French toast or, for the more health conscious, muesli with nuts and fresh fruit, or ricotta and eggs? The final touches are a blue and white palette for dishes and serveware that inspires visions of a Mediterranean seashore. The result? Pure bliss.

MUESLI WITH NUTS & SEEDS

MAKES 6 CUPS

- 3 cups thick-cut, old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1 cup raw whole almonds
- 1 cup pecan halves
- ½ cup toasted hazelnuts, skins removed
- 1 cup pumpkin seeds
- ½ cup roasted sesame seeds
- 1 cup raw sunflower seeds
- ½ cup flaked coconut
- ¼ cup hulled millet
- ¼ cup virgin coconut oil, melted
- ⅓ cup maple syrup
- ½ tsp Maldon sea salt
- 1 cup dried cranberries

Preheat the oven to 325°F.

In a large bowl, stir together the rolled oats, the nuts and the seeds, the coconut and the millet. Pour the coconut oil and the maple syrup into the bowl and stir with a large wooden spoon until everything is well coated and combined.

Pour the mixture out onto a large parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Sprinkle with salt.

Bake for 30 to 35 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes to brown evenly. Let cool on the baking sheet for 20 minutes and then add the dried cranberries. When the muesli is completely cooled, store in an airtight container.

Serve as a snack eaten on its own or as a cereal with almond milk, or serve layered with Greek yogurt, fresh berries and a drizzle of honey.

DATE & PECAN SCONES WITH CINNAMON-HONEY BUTTER

MAKES 12 SCONES

- 1 cup toasted pecans
- 1 cup pitted dates
- 3 cups all-purpose flour, divided
- 1 cup cold unsalted butter, cubed
- ¾ cup + 2 tbsp coarse brown sugar, divided
- 2 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1 cup 18% cream

Preheat the oven to 375°F.

Place the pecans and the dates in the bowl of a food processor and pulse with 2 cups of the flour until they're roughly chopped. Add the cold cubed butter to the processor and pulse briefly, until the mix is just crumbly and evenly chopped.

Pour the mixture into a large bowl and add the remaining flour and dry ingredients (¾ cup brown sugar through cinnamon), stirring to combine evenly. Stir in the vanilla and all but 1 tsp of the cream, mixing with a wooden spoon until the dough comes together to form a ball. Turn out the dough onto a clean surface and knead once or twice to bring together. Flatten the dough with your palms to form a 9" circle about 1¼" thick. With a sharp knife, cut across the dough to form four quarters and then cut each quarter into three wedges to make 12 scones.

Place the scones on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet about 2" apart. Brush the tops with the remaining teaspoon of cream and sprinkle with the extra 2 tbsp of coarse brown sugar. Bake for 25 to 28 minutes until lightly browned. Cool for 10 minutes before serving.

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MUESLI
WITH NUTS
& SEEDS

add up the possibilities

chicken & citrus salad

Find more inspiration at
Kraftsaladcentre.ca

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Indulging in pure, unadulterated personal time is the goal for a relaxed breakfast in bed.

LARA SERVES UP STYLE

Prop stylist Lara McGraw has the best eye in the business for the perfect pieces to set the table. "There's nothing more enticing than the prospect of a relaxed breakfast in bed," she says, "but you need a bit of energy in your colour scheme or you'd never get up!" Here, Lara mixed and matched layers of blue and white prints that bring to mind Mediterranean mornings. While the colours are soothing, the patterns lend a sense of vibrancy.

Treat yourself to more tasty recipes for breakfast in bed from **STYLEATHOME.COM/BREAKFASTINBED.**

ORIGINAL ALL-BRAN* RECIPE

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ALL-BRAN CRANBERRY APPLE MUFFINS

1 ½ cups All-Bran Original* cereal
1 cup milk
1 cup all-purpose flour
½ cup lightly packed brown sugar
4 tsp baking powder
1 tsp ground cinnamon
½ tsp **each**, ground nutmeg and salt
2 eggs
¼ cup canola oil
¾ cup chopped, frozen cranberries (do not thaw)
¾ cup unpeeled, diced McIntosh apples (¼" cubes)

In medium bowl, combine cereal and milk. Let stand for 2 minutes or until cereal softens. Meanwhile, in large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt. Set aside.

Beat eggs and oil into cereal mixture. Add to dry ingredients, stirring only until just combined. Fold in cranberries and apple. Portion batter evenly into 12 (2 ½") non-stick muffin pan cups, lightly coated with cooking spray.

Bake at 400°F for 20 minutes or until tops spring back when lightly touched. Yields 12 muffins, each a source of fibre.

FEEL ALL-BRAN* NEW

†Wheat Bran Fibre is the best fibre to promote regularity. 1. Health Canada. Guideline for Planning and Statistical Review of Clinical Laxation Studies for Dietary Fibre. Health Canada, Ottawa, ON, 1994. 2. Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Sciences. Dietary Reference Intakes for Energy, Carbohydrate, Fiber, Fat, Fatty Acids, Cholesterol, Protein and Amino Acids. The National Academies Press, Washington, DC, 2002/2005. *© 2012, Trademark of Kellogg Company used under licence by Kellogg Canada Inc.

Make your mornings sunny side up with these delicious weekend recipes.

FOR CINNAMON-HONEY BUTTER
MAKES ½ CUP

½ cup unsalted butter, softened
2 tbsp creamed wildflower honey
¼ tsp ground cinnamon

In a small bowl, beat the butter, honey and cinnamon until light and fluffy. Slather warm scones with the cinnamon-honey butter.

HAM & CHEESY FRENCH TOAST
SERVES 4

4 slices soft-crust Italian bread, cut 1½" thick
8 slices ham
4 free-range organic eggs
1 cup milk
1 tsp dry mustard
¼ tsp paprika
1 tsp Maldon sea salt
2 tbsp butter, divided
1½ cups grated cheddar cheese

Preheat the oven to 375°F.

With a small, serrated knife, carefully cut a slit into one side of each slice of bread to form a little pocket. Stuff 2 slices of the ham into each pocket, being careful not to break the edges of the bread.

Place the eggs, milk, mustard, paprika and salt in a large bowl. Soak the stuffed bread in the egg mixture for 5 minutes, turning the slices to coat evenly.

Melt 1 tbsp of the butter in a large non-stick pan over medium heat and, when sizzling, take two of the stuffed breads out of the egg mixture and place in the pan. Cook on one side until golden brown, then turn over and cook the other side, about 2 minutes per side. Place the slices on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Repeat with the other bread slices.

Sprinkle the cheese evenly over the top of the stuffed bread slices and place in the oven. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes, until the toasts are cooked through and puffy and the cheese is melted and gooey.

SUNNY BAKED EGG CUPS
MAKES 1

2 slices very thinly sliced prosciutto
½ tsp unsalted butter
2 free-range organic eggs
1 tbsp 35% cream
1 tbsp green onions, chopped
4 small basil leaves, torn
3 tbsp ricotta cheese
2 slices toasted focaccia

Preheat the oven to 350°F.

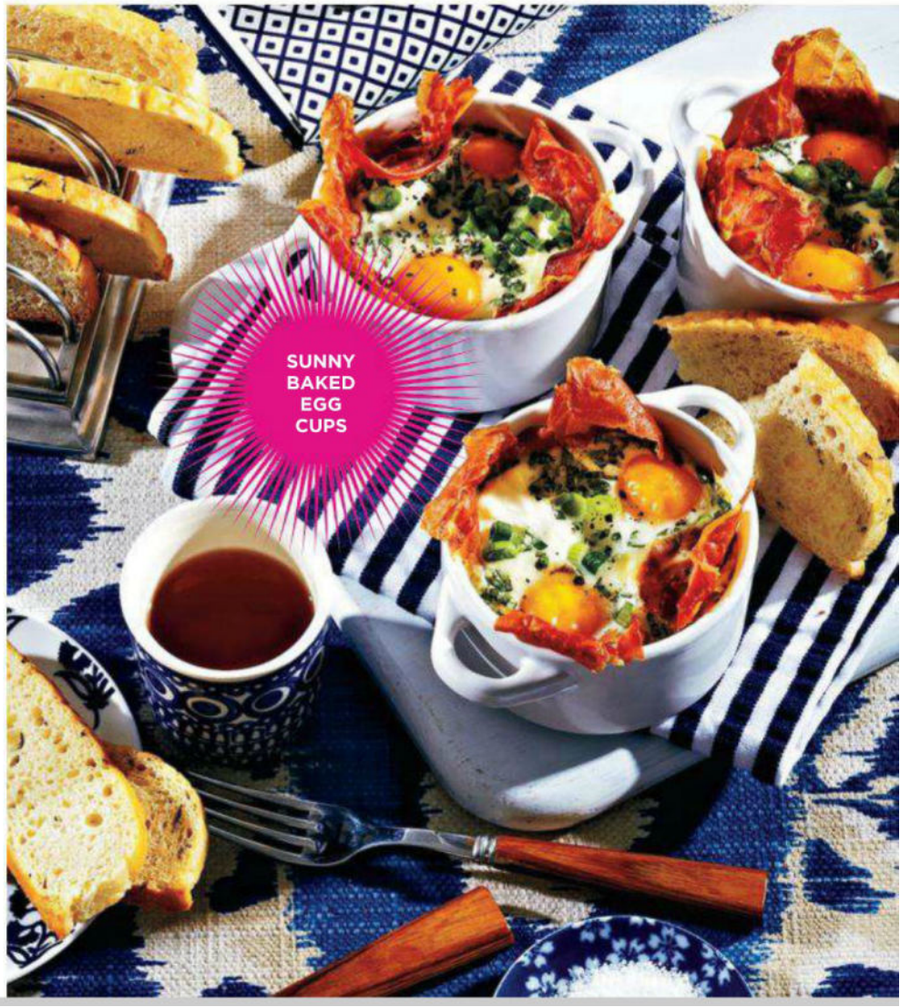
Place the prosciutto on a lightly greased baking sheet and bake in the oven for 4 or 5 minutes, until just beginning to crisp. (This step is important to ensure the prosciutto will be chewy in the finished egg cups.)

Lightly butter a 1½-cup baking dish or large muffin tin. Press the slices of crispy prosciutto into the bottom of the dish and up the sides.

Separate the egg whites and yolks into two dishes. Whisk the egg whites with the cream, green onions and basil. Season lightly with a little salt and pepper. Pour the egg white mixture into the baking dish. Drop in the ricotta in 3 small spoonfuls and gently nestle the egg yolks into the mixture, being careful to keep them whole.

Place the dish in the oven on a baking sheet and bake for 17 to 22 minutes, depending on how firm you like the yolks cooked.

Serve right away with slices of toasted focaccia or baguette.



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Summertime ★ SIPPERS ★

There's nothing better than celebrating our Canadian summer with friends, family and, of course, a refreshing glass of wine. Entertaining in the comfort of your own backyard is the best, most rewarding and cost-effective way to welcome the season, so here I've suggested some fun wines to add to your party mix.

GARNISH YOUR SANGRIA WITH FRESH FRUIT AND, FOR A TWIST, ADD A CINNAMON STICK.

CASUAL & PATRIOTIC

CANADA DAY BARBECUE

Celebrate the holiday with the best Canadian wines. As a cooler-climate region, Canada excels at certain varietals, including Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Baco Noir. All of these wines pair well with food off the grill – from veggies to chicken to burgers.

RELAXED LIVING

COTTAGE WEEKEND

Cottage life should be simple and fun with a wine to match. A glass of something crisp, cool and refreshing, such as Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon Blanc or Gewürztraminer, is perfect for sipping during the day. In the evening around the campfire, choose something with more body and texture like Chardonnay, Merlot or Cabernet.

COOL & REFRESHED

POOL PARTY

Lounging by the pool with a drink in hand is an ideal way to spend an afternoon. For a long day in the sun, stick to wines with a lower alcohol content (less than 12 percent). Riesling, Moscato, Pinot Grigio and Vinho Verde will give you that summer-lovin' feeling without the headache. Just be sure to keep them chilled. Sangria is another fabulous solution for outdoor entertaining. It's easy to make, too: Mix wine (red, white or rosé), fruit juice and sparkling water in a pitcher. Add fresh seasonal fruits and ice. Let it sit for a few hours, then serve.

SOPHISTICATED CHIC

PATIO BRUNCH

Enjoying brunch on the patio is a real summertime treat, especially when it's in your own backyard. Sparklers like Moscato, Prosecco and champagne are the perfect pairings for a brunch menu. Plus, starting the day with a glass of bubbly and a stack of French toast is really the best kind of wake-up call.

CONVERSATION STARTER

BYOW (BRING YOUR OWN WINE)

Throwing a party where guests help contribute is an inventive way to involve everyone. Choose a wine-related theme for your party, such as French wines, California Zinfandels or pink wines, then tell your friends to bring a bottle of something that's fitting. For an extra twist, ask guests to bring two bottles – one to enjoy at the party and the second to swap so that everyone goes home with a new bottle to try!

FOR WINE PAIRINGS, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

Wine expert **Angela Aiello** is the founder of the iYellow Wine Club (iyellowwineclub.com), which hosts regular events, classes and tours where members can build wine confidence and appreciation through discovery.

For thirst-quenching summer cocktail ideas, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/SUMMERCOCKTAILS.**

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For this and more inspiring kitchen tested recipes visit www.trestelle.ca or www.trestelle.ca/mobile

laundry hampers

so fresh and so clean **FROM PAGE 59**

1 Rattan Branäs **LAUNDRY HAMPER** with liner, $35, IKEA, ikea.ca. **2** Steel Wire **LAUNDRY HAMPER** in Matte Nickel with liner, $65, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca. **3** Steel French Wire **LAUNDRY HAMPER,** $161, ticking stripe **LINER,** $34, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com. **4** Powder coated metal Grid **LAUNDRY HAMPER** with liner, $90, CB2, cb2.ca. **5** Engineered-wood Lacquer **LAUNDRY HAMPER,** $99, West Elm, westelm.com. **6** Steel-and-canvas Laundry Cart **LAUNDRY HAMPER,** $199 US (medium), Restoration Hardware, restorationhardware.com.

1

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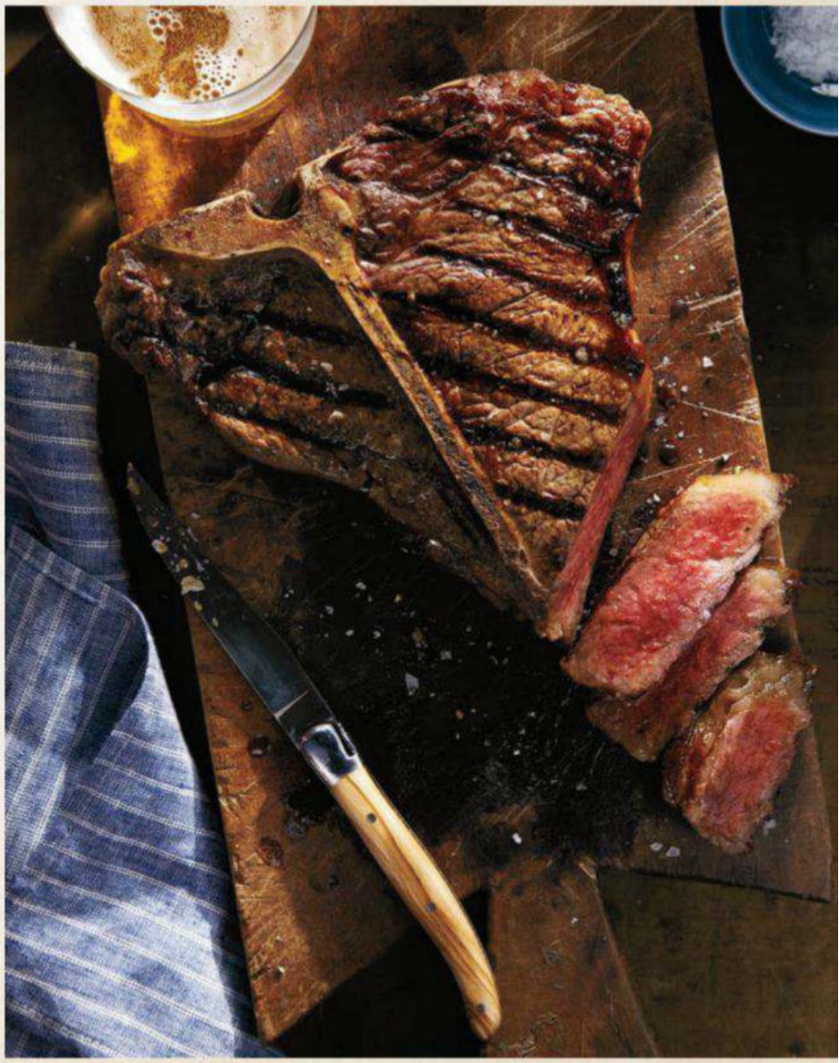

WOLF®

PREDICT DELICIOUS

perfect pairings

tastings FROM PAGE 120

Wine expert Angela Aiello selects four matches for our "Sunday Best" menu (page 110).

Pair our **MUESLI WITH NUTS & SEEDS** with Jacob's Creek Moscato, Australia, $11.

Pair our **DATE & PECAN SCONES WITH CINNAMON-HONEY BUTTER** with Cave Spring Riesling, Ontario, $14.

Pair our **SUNNY BAKED EGG CUPS** with Malivoire Lady Bug Rosé, Ontario, $16.

Pair our **HAM & CHEESY FRENCH TOAST** with Penfolds Koonunga Hill Chardonnay, Australia, $15.

in the flush

christine's guide to flush-mount light fixtures FROM PAGE 48

Think outside the box. Flush-mount light fixtures can work in unexpected places. Try them outdoors or even as a wall-mounted sconce. Contributing design editor Christine Hanlon also suggests using exterior nautical-style lanterns to flank a bathroom mirror.

Baker brass-and-Murano glass Syro semi-flush **CHANDELIER,** $10,980, Studio B, studiobhome.com.

Anemone flush **LIGHT FIXTURE** in Polished Nickel, $225, Universal Lamp, greatlighting.com.

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Its advanced technology helps eliminate strong food odours.**
Onions? What onions?

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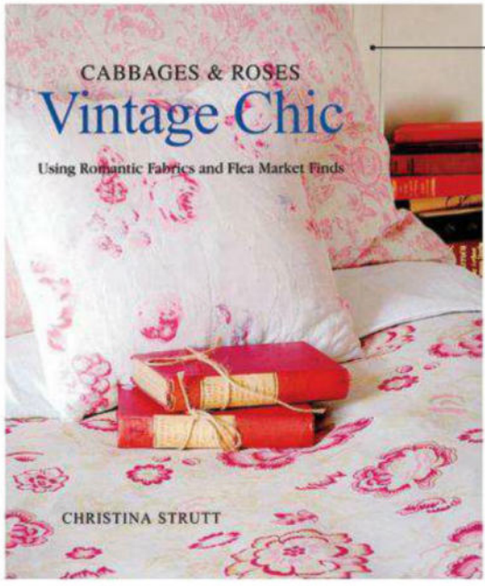
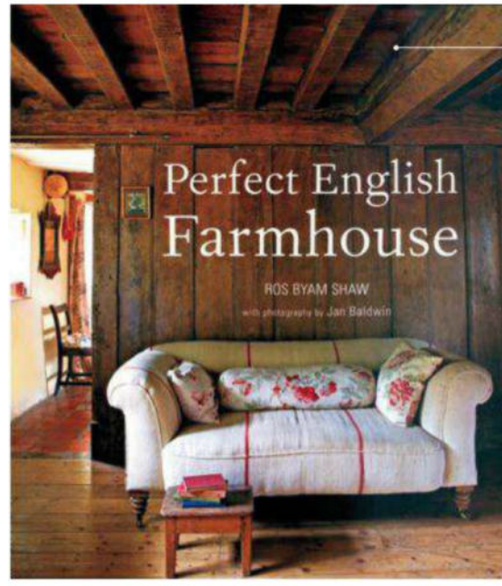
home library

on our summer reading list



1 ***CABBAGES & ROSES VINTAGE CHIC*** **BY CHRISTINA STRUTT (CICO BOOKS), $35.**

Owner of the quintessentially country textiles firm, Cabbages & Roses, Christina Strutt offers hundreds of ideas for making the most of brightly coloured textiles, faded fabrics and flea market finds. *Cabbages & Roses Vintage Chic* reveals a style that's at once elegant, relaxed and inviting, evoking a bygone era that was easy and carefree.



2 ***PERFECT ENGLISH FARMHOUSE*** **BY ROS BYAM SHAW (RYLAND PETERS & SMALL), $50.**

From editor and interior design journalist Ros Byam Shaw, *Perfect English Farmhouse* celebrates the unassuming beauty, character and history of England's storied farmhouses. Ros explains the key elements of the varied styles of homes from laid-back modern to old-fashioned rustic. Perfect inspiration for your summer house!

TEXT, AMANDA ETTY

source guide

31 Westgate
31westgate.com

A

Alberta Marble & Tile
albertamarble.com

American Olean
americanolean.com

Artistic Baths
artisticbaths.com

Art's Custom Woodcrafting
artscustomwood-crafting.com

B

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Bon Mot
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Bosch
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C

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Chapters, Indigo
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CIL Paints
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D

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E

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M

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nikzad.com

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norstoneusa.com

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nu-wayfloors.com

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Scotties has always featured style-savvy tissue boxes that complement every room in your home, no matter what your décor style may be.

DESIGN 2:
A display of curated accessories in an uplifting palette is just right for those who love colour in their decor.

This past Spring our Editor-in-Chief Erin McLaughlin teamed with Scotties to create three box designs, based on this year's hottest decor trends. One box will be declared the winner and sold in stores! Pick up the September issue of Style at Home to see which design was voted the winner!

Scotties

Be a part of Scotties next box design. Visit
facebook.com/ScottiesTissue

COMING JULY 2

RELAXED COTTAGE living

FIVE CASUAL COTTAGES decorated for summer; fabulous East Coast style; plus, delicious recipes for warm-weather parties.

AND MUCH MORE! Where to shop, stay and eat in Halifax; TV hosts Steven and Chris bring style to the bedroom; our favourite colour for summer; a recipe for a sweet treat.

styleathome

PHOTOGRAPHY: DONNA GRIFFITH

WHERE THE white THINGS ARE

The five golden – or should we say pearlescent? – rules for making the white-on-white trend work in your own home.

LIVING LIGHTING'S ART GLASS CHANDLIER
A striking new design crafted in white opal art glass gives you refined elegance that's perfect for the dining room or the bedroom.

UNION LIGHTING AND FURNISHINGS' BOUQUET OF METAL WHITE ROSES
This exquisite chandelier brings light to both nature and romance. Available in two sizes with matching wall sconces.

CORNERSTONE HOME FURNISHINGS INTERIORS' WHITE PAINTED SECRETARY
Perfect for home office, kitchen or family room, this piece is an elegant workhorse. Classic lines and simple hardware make this an easy fit in any home. Affordably priced.

A10-3
Queen Anne's Lace

B10-3
Candlelit Beige

B10-1
Lotus Flower

IKEA MASKROS PENDANT LAMP
Imitates a dandelion ready to be scattered by the wind. And when lit, the shadows on the walls resemble just that - the room dissolves and transforms. Like when the sun shines through the trees. The pendant lamp is a real mood enhancer, decorative and riveting even when switched off.

OLYMPIC PAINT
With its zero-VOC, environmentally preferred formula, it's both low odour and high quality at a great price. Insist on Olympic.

1 SELECT YOUR SHADE AND STYLE.

The best thing about white? It's very versatile. Crisp whites with undertones of blue lend themselves to contemporary interiors while soft ivory whites are perfect for shabby chic style. With a rainbow of undertones, white is a veritable prism of shades, making its decorative possibilities virtually endless.

2 LAYER, LAYER, LAYER.

Make it your secret decorating mantra. An all-white home can read as sterile or flat if you don't add visual interest, and the key to visual interest? Texture and layers. Ensure that the all-white elements of your room don't blend into oblivion by pairing something smooth with something woven or fluffy, something shiny and glossy with something soft and matte.

3 INTRODUCE NEUTRALS.

An all-white home doesn't have to be all white to work. White on white doesn't necessarily mean white floors, white walls, white furniture and white accents. Forgive a few neutral elements, but aim for low contrast with materials like blond wood, cream and ivory, that will blend with the look rather than dominate it.

4 CHANNEL THE LIGHT.

White brightens your home, but light illuminates it. Multiply your lighting sources by hanging one statement white light fixture and use reflective surfaces to bounce that light around your room. It's an energizing effect that any home can embrace.

5 CELEBRATE FREEDOM!

Now that you have a nice, neutral space from floor to ceiling, you have the freedom to play. Craving celadon green this spring? Bold black-and-white contrast for fall? Introduce small and easily changeable accents, such as vases, toss cushions, throws and books to get you there – but don't feel you have to commit to any colour – because your home matches virtually every shade!

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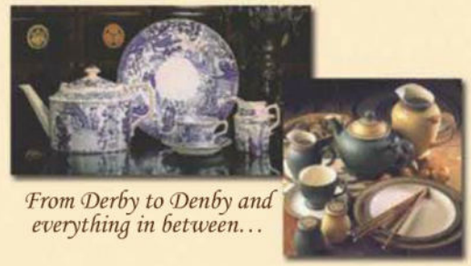

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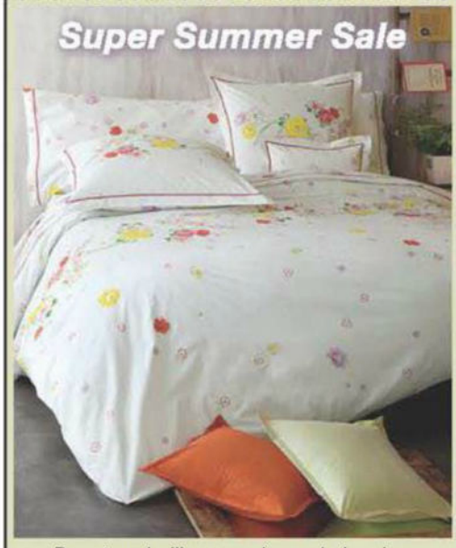

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WIN A TRIP to London with editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin! See page 83.

MARYLEBONE HIGH STREET, LONDON

This tiny stretch of road tucked away from the crowds is one of London's hidden treasures, not least because it's lined with some of our favourite shopping spots in the city.

SHOP CATH KIDSTON

It's not the biggest location of this quintessentially English chain, but it's one of the most charming. In this emporium of brightly coloured, vintage-style fabrics, accessories and toiletries, you'll be hard pressed to leave without a modestly priced trinket in one of Cath's sweet nostalgic florals or prints.

51 Marylebone High St., cathkidston.co.uk.

SHOP THE CONRAN SHOP

The second London location of Sir Terence Conran's decor store features three floors of everything from plants and soaps to light fixtures and design classics. Plus, his famed Orrery restaurant sits on the top of the shop.

55 Marylebone High St., conranshop.co.uk.

STAY K WEST HOTEL & SPA

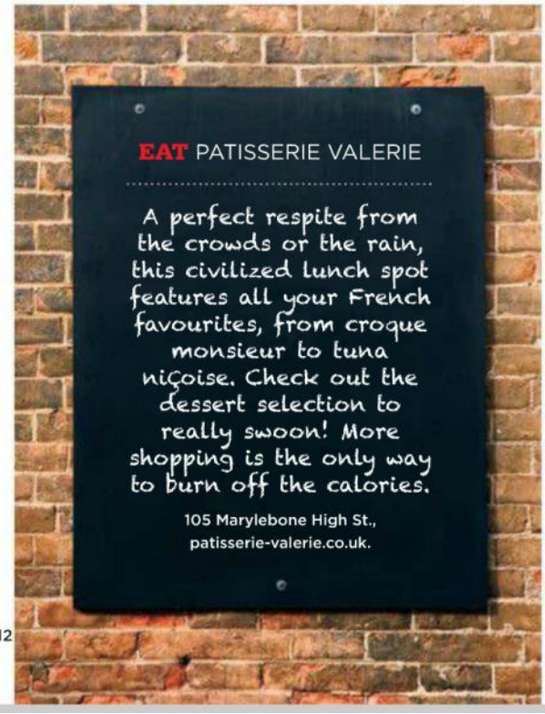
Understated comfort is a hallmark of London, and the K West hotel in the city's Kensington area meets the criteria in a fun, modern way. The rooms are simple and quiet (a must for this busy metropolis), and the spa is an oasis of calm after shopping all day.

Richmond Way, k-west.co.uk.

SHOP VV ROULEAUX

If ribbons, tassels and trims are your thing, you'll love VV Rouleaux for its amazing selection of all things passementerie – both decor and fashion. Grosgrain and satin in every shade imaginable line the shelves, and downstairs is everything you need to embellish a cushion or create the perfect ascot hat.

102 Marylebone Lane, vvrouleaux.com.



EAT PATISSERIE VALERIE

A perfect respite from the crowds or the rain, this civilized lunch spot features all your French favourites, from croque monsieur to tuna niçoise. Check out the dessert selection to really swoon! More shopping is the only way to burn off the calories.

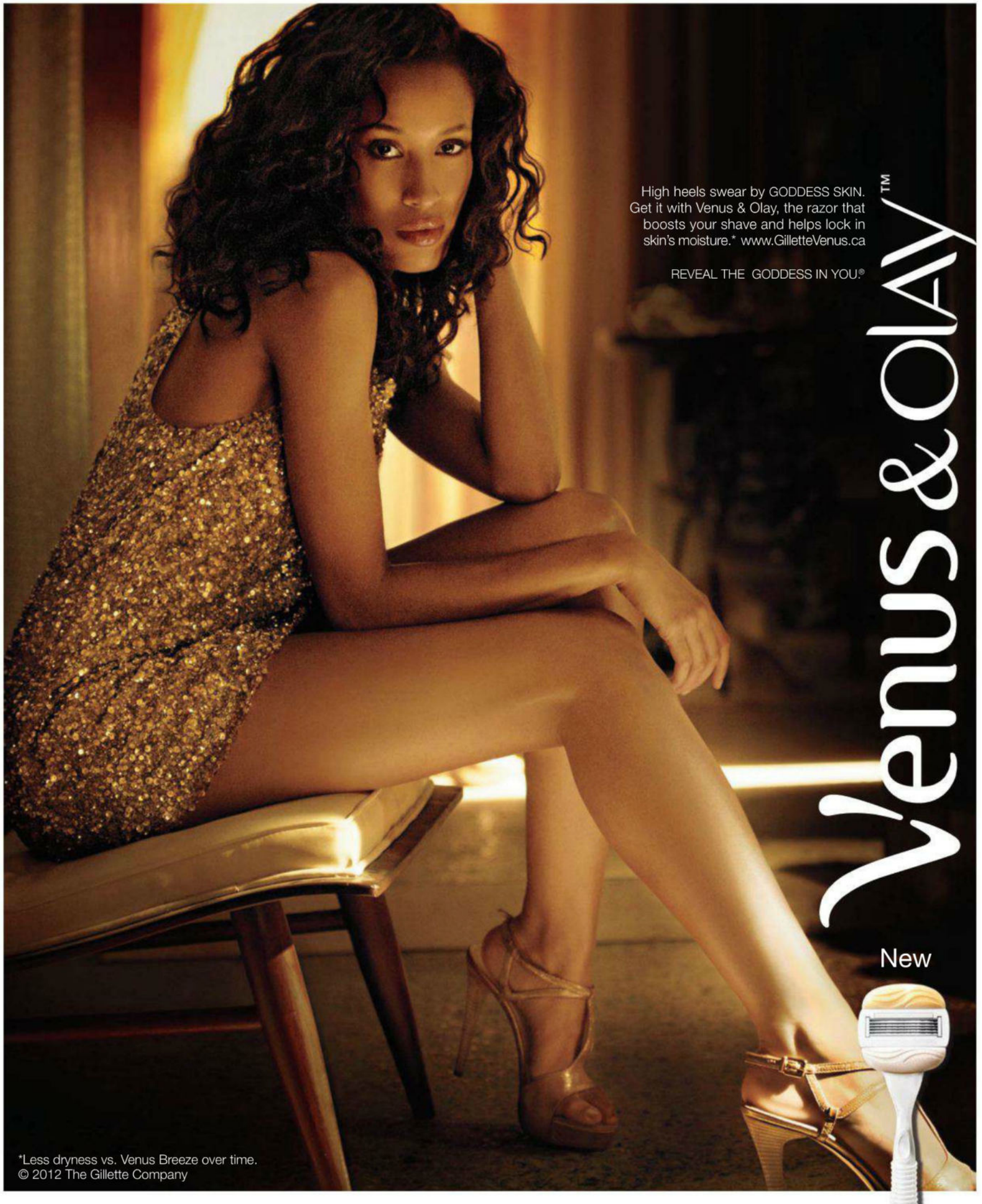
105 Marylebone High St., patisserie-valerie.co.uk.

SHOP DESIGNERS GUILD

This outpost of iconic designer Tricia Guild's wares may be small, but it's just as mighty as its King's Road sister. Tricia's deft touch for mixing and matching colour and pattern makes this store a mecca of exotic prints and vivid colour on grey London days.

76 Marylebone High St., designersguild.com.

TEXT, SUZANNE MOUTIS; ILLUSTRATION, EMILIE DESROCHERS; PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA (CATH KIDSTON), STACEY VAN BERKEL (DESIGNERS GUILD, HOTEL)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the inspiration

The sleek, all-white wall clock in Tara Ballantyne's Waterloo, Ont., living room exudes her distinct style: minimal, unique and approachable.

Karlsson Mr. White Numbers **WALL CLOCK,** $80, Indigo, Chapters, indigo.ca.

last LOOK

Every issue, we pick our favourite piece from one of the featured interiors. This month, we selected a modern white wall clock from style and food editor Tara Ballantyne's inspiring home (see "Scandi-Canadian on a Shoestring," page 102). **Here's what you need to know.**

WHY WE LOVE IT

More than just a piece for telling time, this 20-inch clock, with its white numbers on a white face and polished steel trim, makes for a super-stylish, minimalist wall accessory.

WHY IT WORKS

This simple, discreet wall clock can either disappear into the background if hung on a white wall for a subtle statement or stand out if displayed in front of a bright colour.

WHERE TO USE IT

Think of using a wall clock in a less obvious space, such as a laundry room or craft area – where you might easily lose track of time – and it will act as a clean, crisp decorative element.

PRODUCER, CATHERINE THERRIEN; PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA. VIRGINIA MACDONALD (INTERIOR)

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